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# RECREATION

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— August 1935 —

Some Indian Games

Nation-Wide Recreation

By Jacob Baker

Planning the Summer Vacation

By Henry S. Curtis, Ph. D.

Chicago Pioneers on New Frontiers

By V. K. Brown

A Few of America's Outdoor Theaters

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# RECREATION

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## "Enrichment of Life"

**T**IME is the raw material out of which life is carved. Leisure is our own time. We ourselves are the employers of leisure. The shape or pattern of life often becomes largely a matter of how we use what is loosely called "spare time."

As far as accomplishment is concerned for millions of people, the day is done when the whistle blows. "Nothing to do until tomorrow" is the slogan. Aimless recreation follows. Yet, most of these people have vague ambitions of one sort or another. The time when these ambitions might be set in motion is the leisure time. By ignoring this use of leisure the best in life is tossed aside like an old newspaper. Such waste of time might be more readily justified if it led to contentment. On the contrary, no one is more bored with himself or leads a duller existence than the person who has no program for his after-working hours.

Most people do not use time with a purpose. They drift with it. Instead of making life, they permit it to happen. Their conversation is of yesterday and their thoughts of tomorrow. Many of the ancients were wiser. "*Carpe diem*," meaning "Seize the day," was the advice of Horace two thousand years ago. Make the most of today is the sense of this expression. Forget yesterday, for yesterday is gone. Dismiss tomorrow. Tomorrow is never here. Live today! Grasp the fleeting moment by the forelock and use it now. Let it slip by and it is out of your grasp forever.

Time is the element out of which life is carved. I am thinking of the marble out of which sculptors carve their works of art. In a sense each of us is a sculptor. Day by day we hammer away at the marble which is time. Chip by chip it falls at our feet. The outline of a statue first appears rough, almost formless. Indeed, it is never wholly finished. To the last hour we apply the chisel. At length the hand relaxes and life is done. The statue is our life's work. It is the result of what we have done with time. If we have lived beautifully, it is beautiful. If we have lived usefully, the marble figure has, at least, a semblance of beauty. If we have lived badly, aimlessly, carelessly, our handiwork reflects the misuse of the primal material given us—Time.

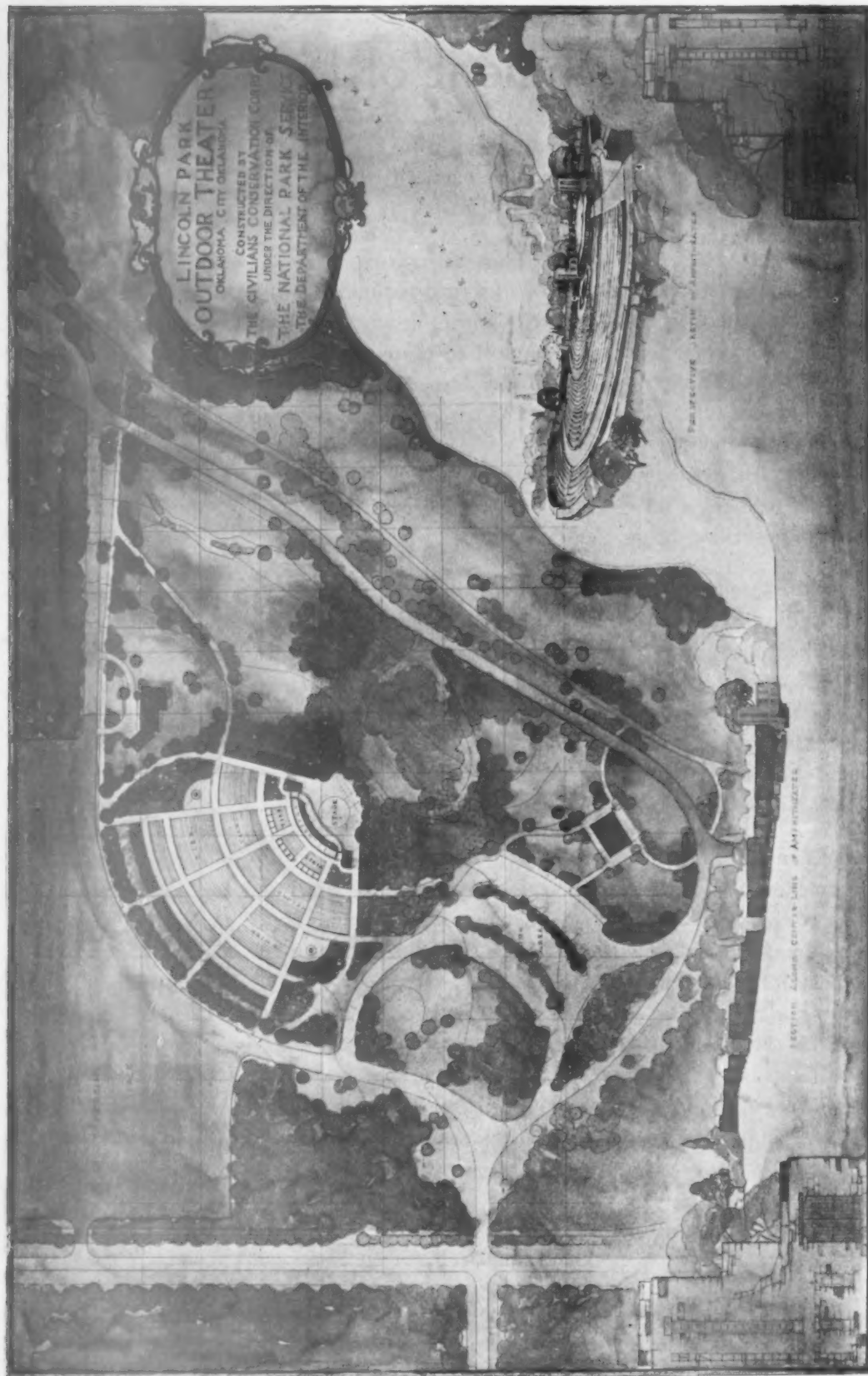
JAMES A. MOYER,

*Division of University Extension  
Massachusetts Department of Education.*

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AUGUST, 1935

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OKLAHOMA CITY'S OUTDOOR THEATER AT LINCOLN PARK  
*(See page 236 for description of the theater.)*





*Courtesy Look Memorial Park Commission, Northampton*

## A Few of America's Outdoor Theaters

**T**HERE IS NOTHING new about giving plays out-of-doors, but the increasing emphasis on outdoor production has resulted in wide interest in the construction of municipal and school outdoor theaters. In the past few years the allocation of funds for ERA and PWA projects which serve the cultural interest of the people has done much to increase the number of outdoor theaters. And so today from coast to coast there are to be found theaters ranging from the "Little Lattice Playhouse" in Oakland, a simple stage erected in an old olive orchard and embellished with lattice work, to the elaborate amphitheater in Oklahoma City, where, when the project is completed, 14,000 people will be accommodated.

Between these two extremes of planned and constructed theaters are to be found innumerable woodland and garden theaters created by nature. Most of these are beautifully located in county and municipal parks. The Griffiths Theater in Griffiths Park, Los Angeles, is recognized as one of the finest in the public parks of the country. Salt Lake City's theater in Nibley Park with the stage located on an island in the lake, the auditorium being on the opposite shore, is an example of an outdoor theater which is performing outstanding service in the musical and dramatic productions presented there each year.

The Sylvan Theater in Washington, D. C., located in Monument Grounds Park, is well known, as is Salem's theater in Willows Park and many others which might be mentioned.

A few details about some of the existing theaters will be of interest.

### **In Northampton, Massachusetts**

One of the outstanding recreational projects developed under the Emergency Relief Administration in Massachusetts is the outdoor theatre in the Frank Newhall Look Memorial Park at Northampton, a community of 25,000 people located in a thickly populated section of New England. H. Foss Narum, Park Manager, sends a description of it.

In the original development plan for the park drawn by Robert Washburn Beal of Boston, a fan shaped area had been set aside for the future construction of an outdoor theatre. This area, surrounded by tall pine and elm trees, was utilized in planning the stage and auditorium when, shortly after the initiation of E.R.A. in Massachusetts, the local firm of Putnum and Stuart was authorized by the Park Board of Trustees to draw plans for the construction of the auditorium.

The plans as drawn were approved by the Trustees of the park and presented to the Commonwealth E.R.A. for their approval. In April 1934 the approved plans were returned to E.R.A. Administrator J. P. Boland and 50 men were assigned to the work. As all of the work was done by "wheelbarrow labor" the work progressed slowly during the following months. By November the project had been completed as far as was possible by unskilled labor, and the piping for water supply and drainage was then installed. During the eight months in which the men worked there were from 50 to 140 men working 18 to 24 hours a week. Over 7500 yards of material were moved from the front of the area to the rear to give an eight foot rise in the rear and a seven

foot drop at the front of the area. The E.R.A. allotted about \$18,000 for this work.

The auditorium is 233' wide at the rear, 130' wide at the front and is 176' from the rear to the pool in front of the stages. At the present time it is not planned to install seats or permanent benches. Loam and grass seed will be put on next spring after re-leveling the area, as may be necessary after settling and winter frost.

Separating the auditorium and the 46' by 100' pageant area is a water pool 130 feet long, eight feet wide and 24 inches deep. Piping at this pool will be arranged so as to permit the use of a water curtain to separate the stage from the auditorium.

The first stage level is known as the "pageant area" and will have a floor of grass. This area will be used as an orchestra pit as well as for pageants.

The second level is two and one-half feet higher than the pageant area and is 45' deep by 123' wide. This will be the main production stage for plays and concerts. Future plans for this area will necessitate an expenditure of about \$10,000 to permit a stage of flagstone, stage lighting facilities, two twelve foot square pillars at each side of the stage to be used as control rooms, sound amplification, sound shell, and to provide beneath this stage the rest rooms and dressing rooms.

A large number of cities and towns are within a 25 mile radius of the park. Smith College in Northampton, Amherst College in Amherst and Mt. Holyoke College at South Hadley are all within a short distance. The possibilities for musical and dramatic activities in this new outdoor theatre are many.

#### Duluth's Outdoor Theater

In 1907 the Park Department of Duluth, Minnesota, wrote the first chapter of the history of its outdoor theater when it culverted a creek used as a storm sewer and started on the erection of an am-

The outdoor theater in Duluth is unusually fortunate in its beautiful location on the lake

phitheater. The towers and platforms completed in 1928 are of native semi-face stone, having considerable variation in color. The platform is of heavy slate of variegated colors. Underneath the platform are toilet facilities and dressing rooms. There is a sounding board for band concerts. The amphitheater will seat about 10,000 people without too much crowding, and the audience usually sit on the grass. The structure cost \$13,600 and the culverting, grading and seeding about \$4,500.

#### The Outdoor Amphitheater in Oklahoma City

Picture a sloping hillside field, fringed along its lower sides with young oaks, well located as to elevation so that fine vistas are seen to the east across the lake and beyond, and to the south where the rolling country spreads away into a scene worthy of an artist's recording.

This is the spot where Oklahoma City has located its largest outdoor amphitheater in Lincoln Park and an excellent choice of location it was, giving one the feeling of peaceful satisfaction in its natural beauty. From the illustration on page 234 it is possible to see how the stage is located in the lower end to the south of the seats, a feature important in this particular because wind currents are from that direction and will carry the sound from the stage into the audience.

Generous accommodation is provided for the spacious seats which will accommodate 14,000 persons. Although the structure was only half completed last year, an entertainment program was held there which was attended by 14,000 children.

Hundreds of trees have been moved in order to landscape the surrounding areas and preserve

*(Continued on page 272)*





## New Facilities for Recreation

**T**HIS SUMMER many new recreational facilities will be available, a large number of them through the cooperation of PWA, city recreation departments, park departments and other municipal bodies. Private groups are also helping in the country-wide effort which is being made to provide projects from relief funds which will be permanent assets to cities throughout the country.

Here are a few of the recreational facilities which thousands of children and adults will enjoy during the summer of 1935.

### A Museum On a Playground

Prescott, Arizona, has a new municipal playground of nine acres, the result of the cooperative effort of the city, the schools, the public, the Unemployment Committee of the Yavapai County Chamber of Commerce, the Kiwanis and Rotary Clubs, the RFC, the CWA and the ERA. The project represents an expenditure of approximately \$120,000. The development is surrounded by rock walls made of native granite. There are stone bleachers along the east side. Other facilities include a concrete stadium, four concrete double tennis courts, and a separate stone building housing public toilets. A particularly interesting feature of the project is the Smoki Public Museum, erected on the playground from native stone to house prehistoric relics.

### A Swimming Pool in Goldsboro

In January 1935 the Goldsboro, North Carolina, community building opened its indoor swimming pool built at a cost of \$17,000. Of this amount

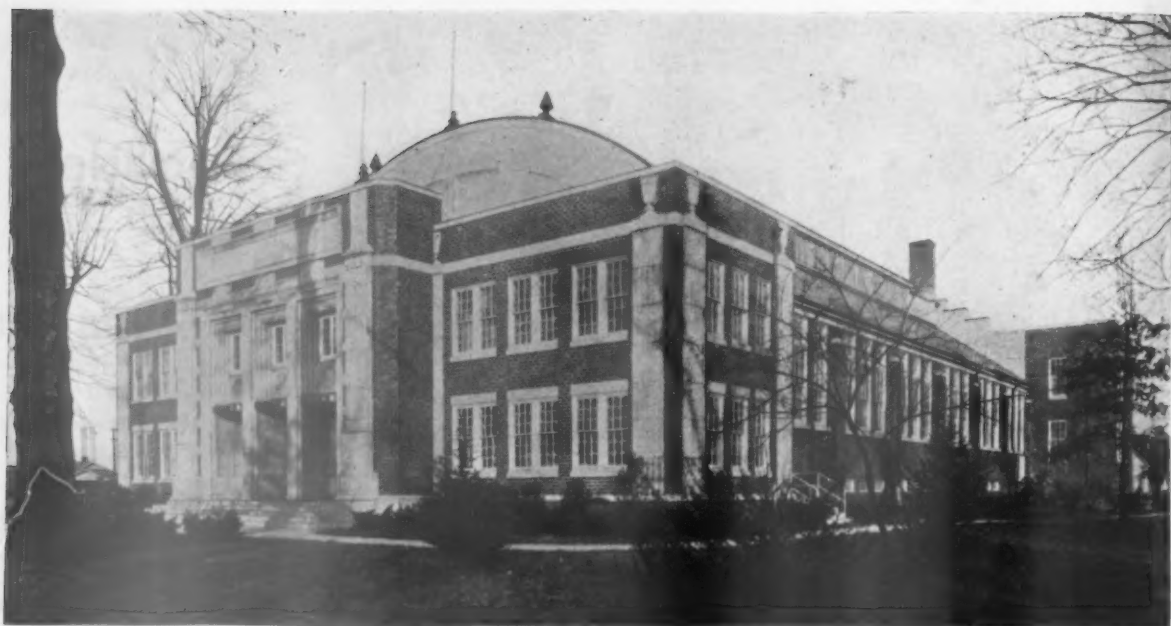
approximately \$11,200 was furnished by C.W.A. The pool is 70 feet long, 24 feet wide, and of a graduated depth from two feet nine inches to eight feet nine inches. It has a modern filtering system and a heating plant. Admission prices to the pool have been set at such a reasonable figure that no one need be excluded. Individual admission will be 10 and 20 cents; season tickets good for four months will be \$2.50 and \$5.00.

### A New Community House in Memphis

On the spot where the old John Gaston Home once stood in South Memphis, Tennessee, has arisen a new landmark, the John Gaston Community House, erected at a cost of about \$125,000 with funds provided by the CWA, TERA and the City of Memphis, with CWA labor. The building has been named for the late John B. Gaston, a pioneer developer of the section in which the building is located, and it is a tribute to the memory of this outstanding citizen and of his wife, who as Mrs. S. W. Mann left not only the property to the city but also a large fund for the erection of a hospital in honor of her first husband.

The exterior of the building is a modern design of brick and stone and on the entrance front are two stone tablets commemorating John B. Gaston. The tablets also mention the Civil Works Administration, city and county officials, members of the Gaston Memorial Board and of the Park Commission, and the architects. The building consists of a group of social or club rooms erected around a combination auditorium and gymnasium. It is provided with a large lobby at the principal





The new community building in Memphis, Tennessee, which has been dedicated to a richer life for all

entrance and two large stair halls at the opposite end. There is direct access from these halls and lobbies to the particular social room to be used without going through the auditorium.

The auditorium will seat 1,500 people. The stage is well equipped with lights, drops and everything needed to stage professional and amateur dramatic performances. There is a complete talking and moving picture apparatus with loud speakers for public meetings. Over the proscenium arch in the gymnasium is the inscription: "That everyone, young or old, shall have a chance to play; shall have an opportunity to find the best and most satisfying use of leisure time."

The building and playground, which are under the supervision of the Park Commission, will be open to the public at all times. A resident manager with his staff will be in charge of activities. Members of the staff of the Recreation Department are serving in this connection.

At the dedication on January 16th, 2,000 people were present. This was the first of a series of special events which continued during the week.

Memphis is proud of the progress it has made in the recreation movement since the dedication of Gaston Park in 1900 and the formation of the Park Commission in that year. Today there are 1,411.62 acres in the city's 39 parks, a parkway of 11 miles, a zoological department, an art gallery, and a museum of natural history. In 1920 when

the Recreation Department of the Park

Commission was organized, there were 7 playgrounds. Today there are 25 playgrounds, seven of which are lighted and open for night play, 39 tennis courts, 9 hard baseball diamonds, 28 soft ball diamonds, 3 swimming pools, 3 golf courses, 11 football fields, and 4 indoor community centers. Recreation Department activities are carried on after school hours in 27 public schools. Seven institutions are reached with a regular program of recreational activities during the year.

#### Other Buildings Erected

Through the generosity of Mr. C. S. Weston, Scranton, Pennsylvania is to have a new building at Weston Park which will include showers for men and women, three club rooms, and a large room which will serve as an auditorium or assembly room. Mr. Weston is supplying the material for the building in the construction of which CWA labor will be used. The approximate cost of the structure will be about \$30,000.

With the assistance of the Gilman, Wisconsin, public schools the Taylor County ERA has erected with relief labor a Boy Scout cabin made of cobble stones. The high school students use this cabin for band practice and social meetings. The work was done under the supervision of E. A. Rowley, Superintendent of Public Schools.



# Planning the Summer Vacation

By HENRY S. CURTIS, Ph.D.  
Ann Arbor, Michigan

THE STUDY of summer activities of children made in Ann Arbor was not an attempt to survey all summer activities. The four under consideration—camps, trips, farms and playgrounds—were selected because, looked at from a world point of view, they are in the process of becoming public undertakings. Camps are now being carried on by the government in Russia and Italy and are being organized on a wide scale in connection with the land retirement plan in this country. They are being maintained by many schools in Germany and by a few schools and some playground systems in this country. Trips have been a part of the program of the German schools for fifty years and have always been the classic European way of spending a vacation. The government of Denmark and certain provinces of Japan have for many years promoted the journeying of city children to farms during the summer. Playgrounds are becoming a public institution throughout the civilized world.

Ann Arbor is a city of approximately 30,000 inhabitants, having a few more than 5,000 children in its public and private schools. The professors from the University of Michigan and their families represent somewhere from a fifth to one-fourth of the population. There is also a considerable group with collegians to educate and others with large intellectual cravings who are living here because of the university, but this class does not furnish many of the school children. The majority of them come from middle class American homes such as would be found in any northern city.

Near the beginning of the school year last September a questionnaire was given out in all of the schools. In the lower grades it was sent home with a note for the parents to fill out. A regular class period was taken for it in the upper grades.

In this article Dr. Curtis gives us a brief account of a study of the summer activities of the children of Ann Arbor, Michigan. It was made with FERA help under the direction of the Department of Landscape Design of the University of Michigan. The study is not yet complete, and it will cover not merely the city of Ann Arbor but the county as a whole, including 140 rural schools and six other towns and villages ranging from 1,000 to 10,000 inhabitants. As far as the study has gone the results from other towns and rural schools are in line with the findings from Ann Arbor, but general conclusions will be more or less uncertain until similar studies are completed in other parts of the county.

## WASHTENAW COUNTY SURVEY

### SUMMER PLAY

Name ..... Age .....  
Grade ..... School .....  
Did you go to any camp last summer?.....  
Name of camp.....  
Where situated?.....How far away?.....  
How long did you stay?.....  
How much did you pay per week?.....  
Did you go on any long trip last summer?.....  
How far? .....  
Did you go by auto, train, bus or boat?.....  
Where did you spend the night?.....  
Did you stay on a farm for a time last summer?.....  
How long? .....  
Was it the farm of a relative? .....  
Where is it? .....  
Did you go regularly to any of the playgrounds of Ann Arbor last summer?.....Which one?.....  
How often?.....How long did you usually stay?.....  
What was your favorite game or activity?.....  
Did you go regularly to city beaches, tennis courts, and golf courses? Underline which

(For children of the first four grades only)

Where do you play when you are at home?.....  
How large is your play yard?.....  
What do you play?.....  
Which of the following outdoor play things do you have? (Check)

|          |          |         |       |            |
|----------|----------|---------|-------|------------|
| sand bin | wagon    | bicycle | bars  | jungle gym |
| seesaw   | tricycle | scooter | swing | automobile |

Add others:

Four thousand seven hundred and eleven children sent back the questionnaires. Of this number 651 went to camp last summer for an average of 22.9 days, a little more than three weeks. This accounts for 25.4 per cent of the time given to the four activities.

### Camps

There were three types of camps represented in the report—Scout camps, which were nearly all patrol camps of less than 25 children, semi-public and private camps. The Scouts either took their food or bought it as a troop, cooked it themselves and lived in their own tents. While they usually reported the expenses of the two weeks at from \$1.25 to \$2.50 a week, the food probably cost no more than it would at home, and the expense was really nothing. The Scout camp has the great advantage of being an integrated part of the year as it is discussed long beforehand and talked over afterwards. It is camping with friends, and is one of the best types of camp.

The semi-public camps maintained by the Y.M.C.A.'s and the Y.W.C.A.'s and the University Fresh Air Camp take a certain percentage of the children for nothing and charge the others \$7.00 a week. The stay is usually for two or three weeks. This type of camp suffers from the lack of continuity. There is in most cases no preparation and no follow-up. The children are usually strangers to each other in the beginning, and the period is too short for forming friendships or for definite training.

The private camp usually takes its groups for eight or ten weeks. It charges from \$15.00 to \$50.00 a week, and as a rule has a fairly well-paid staff and a good program of physical activities. It is, however, essentially a class camp and may promote snobbery.

Most of the talk that one hears and the articles one reads about camping look at it from a negative or a physical point of view. It would thus appear that the purpose of the camp is to get the children out of the city and away from its temptations and heat, to build them up physically and to give them a good time and proficiency in sports.

Most camps offer swimming, canoeing, rowing, athletics, nature study, dramatics and crafts. To many this is the program, but the fundamental thing about the camp is that it is a demonstration in communal living. The best camps make "buddies" of the children. A friendly attitude and spirit are far more essential to its success and popularity than any amount of equipment or resources. To make a friend-

ly world is the purpose of the moral law. The camp may be an important step in that direction. Sleeping, eating, working, singing and playing together all help. But such training requires a session of at least six weeks.

The camp offers the great opportunity to learn cooperation through its joint enterprises of work and play. One must become a citizen of the camp to enjoy it. Is not this a logical preparation for adult citizenship with its responsibilities later?

The camp also makes it possible for the dependent child to escape from the apron strings, for the spoiled child to be unspoiled, to learn to stand on his own feet and be responsible for his own acts.

These are higher values than a knowledge of arithmetic. It is the specific training in which the state and city are most interested. This opportunity should be furnished to all children.

Apparently we are at the beginning of an age of unprecedented leisure. There are two universal preparations for leisure time. They are many friends and a love of the open. Neither of them costs anything, but they mean far more to enjoyment than wealth. One of the best opportunities for both of these is offered through the camp.

### Trips

There were reports of "long trips" from 2,238 children which account for 12,465 days of travel at 200 miles a day. These trips thus reached 47.5 per cent of the children and they account for 21.9 per cent of the time of the four activities. A detailed study of this item at one of the schools indicates that this time would be doubled if short trips of from 25 to 50 miles had been included. One eighth grade of 125 children covered 102,597 miles, the boys averaging 1,027 miles per individual. Something over 90 per cent of the long trips and close to 100 per cent of the short ones were by auto. As the average party on these trips was given as 6.8 for the boys and 5.9 for the girls, this undoubtedly represented in the aggregate more recreation than the other three items combined.

The classical method of spending a vacation in Europe has always been travel. There is no summer offering of America that seems

Dr. Curtis points out that the reader, in order to have a true picture of the situation, should keep constantly in mind the fact that Washtenaw County is a rural county, with many retired farmers living in its cities and towns. Ann Arbor, the largest city, has only 30,000 people. There are only two towns outside of Ann Arbor that maintain playgrounds. Conditions are entirely different from those existing in a metropolitan district but the findings of the study are very significant for all interested in rural work.



*Courtesy Girl Scouts*

The young people of America may well follow the example of the youth of other countries in devoting more vacation time to taking walking trips in the open country.

to me comparable to the walking trips of the youth movement

of Europe. There are, according to the last figures I have seen, 3,600,000 members in the German Hostels Association and somewhere between five and six million members in Europe. The hostel is the youth hotel, the place for spending the night. Many of them are old castles or villas of the rich, and some are disused military camps. The regular charge for lodging is seven cents and ten to twenty cents for meals, though all offer opportunity for the walker to cook his own supper if he wishes. It probably costs a German youth no more to go on a two weeks' walking trip than it does to stay at home if he must pay for board and room in both places. The railroads offer third and fourth class fares and one-half rates to the walkers if they need to take the trains.

Our mountain areas offer opportunity for walking, but our country highways as a whole are too much infested with automobiles for the walker to feel safe or to enjoy his walk. There was only one walking trip reported from the 4,711 children. Some five states have passed laws within the year providing for pedestrian paths along certain highways. This will help, but walking is never likely to become popular in our agricultural communities.

There is a marvelous new possibility in the travel field at our doors at this time due to the

new highways that have been developed during the depres-

sion which now cross and recross every part of the United States, while one to Mexico City is promised by June and its extension to Panama and even down the vast shore of South America is surveyed with indications that its reality lies not in a very distant future. Many new cruises have been developed to the Carribbean and the Pacific, while airplane flights across both oceans seem not unlikely during the year. It seems probable that there may soon be airplane resorts in Greenland and along the shore of the Arctic also.

Travel may show us nearly everything we read about in books or papers in a more vivid way, and it brings to our doors all other forms of recreation. Many people do not learn easily from the printed page but see and learn avidly from travel. Travel may make us acquainted with historical backgrounds, with economic and social conditions throughout the United States. It should develop a real appreciation of our great country and the enterprises carried on by the government. It should help one in choosing a profession and a place of residence. It offers an almost necessary basis for patriotism and intelligent voting. The government should be as much interested in having children know America as in their academic training. It might well afford to furnish from its



vast stores the oil and gas necessary for such trips.

The great handicap to any intelligent travel in this country is the lack of any rational directory to points of interest such as may be had for a penny almost anywhere in Europe. This survey has made out such a directory for this county which has just been printed. We have located 58 places, some of which are of international interest, but most of which are unknown to the oldest inhabitants.

### Farms

At first thought a farm may not appear to be much of a pleasure resort. It has always been thought of as a place for work rather than play, but an investigation carried on in two junior high schools as to preferences for farms or camps showed that a larger proportion of the children wished to return to the farm than to the camp.

Farm visits are apparently much the largest item in the summer program so far as the children are concerned, as 1,170 children went to the farms last summer for a period of 21,353 days with an average stay of 18.2 days per child. According to these figures, 24.8 per cent of the children, approximately one quarter, spent 37.5 per cent of the time of the four activities on the farms. This figure is, however, probably below the actual facts. In making up our tables, if a child said he spent the entire summer on the farm

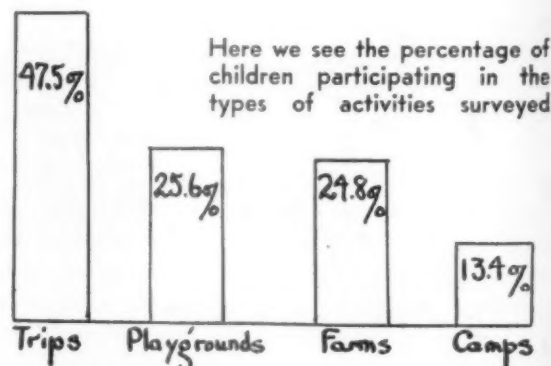
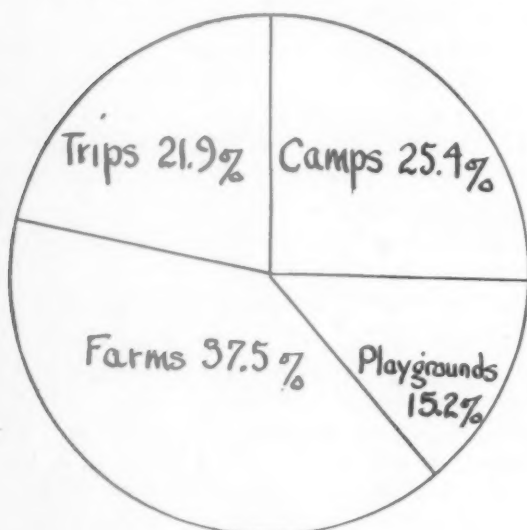
4,711 children of Ann Arbor spend 56,970 twelve-hour days in four activities—trips, camps, farms and playgrounds. The aggregate time per pupil in these activities is 12.1 days.

his time was thrown out on the supposition that he lived there and it was not a vacation to him. Later studies have shown that this was seldom the case. The child nearly always said he lived on a farm if that was the fact.

In an intensive study of one of the junior high schools it was found that 202 out of 326 children had spent 1,008 longer or shorter vacations on a farm and that practically all of them wished to go back every summer. Only seven of these children paid anything. Most of them stayed with grandparents, uncles, aunts or friends. They reported that they helped in the house, garden and on the farm, that they fed the pigs and chickens, gathered the eggs and picked the berries, that they went fishing, swimming and rode horseback. Nearly as many farm children came back to visit them in the city. One hundred and twenty-five of the children said that they had learned much of value on the farm and 43 said it had helped them in their social studies, science, mathematics and in writing themes in school.

The farm stay actually cost less than nothing as the parents saved their board and the children often came back with presents from relatives. They probably earned their way, judging from their accounts of the work they did. The city must buy its food at retail but the farm has it at a price that is below wholesale. Girls of even ten may help with the baby, the dishes, the sweeping, gathering the eggs and picking the berries, and there is a yet greater variety of things for the boys to do. The children who were most helpful were the ones who liked the farm best. Of the 326 children there were only ten who said they did not wish to go to the farm; of these six had never been there and three had merely loafed on the farm without taking an active part in the work.

In this graph is shown the percentage of time given each of the four activities





One hundred and eighty-six of the children said they could go to the farm next summer if they wished. This is more than half of the entire number, but it is undoubtedly too small a number, as the question was asked whether they might visit anyone on a farm "not more than fifty miles away." In the study of the high school it was found that 47 out of 181 children who went to farms went to farms in other states which were scattered over the entire northern part of the country.

If the conditions in this school are typical, it is possible for the majority of the older children in this area to visit farms without expense during the summer. Such visits tend to hold families together and to keep country and city in sympathy. Without such an experience it is difficult for one to understand the conditions through which America grew up.

### Playgrounds

The playgrounds were reported attended by 1,206 children more or less regularly. These represent 25.6 per cent of the children. On the basis of a twelve hour day their attendance amounted to 8,662 days. Converted into minutes and divided by 66, the number of days the playgrounds were open, it provides one hour and eighteen minutes a day for the 1,206 children who attended, or if the time is distributed over the 4,711 children who answered the questionnaire, it would provide 20 minutes a day for all the children. In two of the schools in the wealthier section of the city it amounted to less than two minutes a day, while in some it amounted to half an hour or more.

This is no reflection on the system of Ann Arbor. The city maintains six excellent playgrounds, a goodly number for a city of 30,000, and during the past summer it has had besides its regular staff the assistance of a number of FERA workers. The system of Ann Arbor is above the average. To get the attendance for the summer we must multiply the 8,662 twelve hour days by 9.2, the number of 78 minute days there are in a twelve hour day. This gives a total attendance of 79,790 which would be accepted anywhere as a

good attendance for a city of the size of Ann Arbor.

But even a 20 per cent increase in this record would make no difference in the conclusion that the playgrounds alone cannot offer a program to the school population of a city as a whole during the twelve hour day of the summer. Playgrounds are very beneficial but they cannot minister to children who do not come, or greatly help those who only come occasionally. The influence of the playground is not limited to the time spent there, and perhaps its greatest service is in teaching better games and better methods of play to be used outside. Furthermore the child who has played baseball or tennis for one hour and eighteen minutes has had exercise enough for one day.

### Summary of Findings

If now we add together the number of days given to camps, trips, farms and playgrounds, and divide by the number of children, 4,711, it gives us 12.1 days as the average recreation time in these four activities for the children of the city. This time varies from only a little more than one day for the rural children attending the city schools to 24.6 days for the children of the university faculty. In different schools it varies from a little over seven days in one school to 21 days in the university high and junior high. For the city in general the average of the boys is nearly 30 per cent higher than that of the girls. The number attending camps and taking trips increases with financial status, while the playground attendance decreases. The percentage going to the farms varies but little in the different schools. All of these figures are lower than they should be as children never remember all that they have done. Putting these facts into graphic form we get the results shown on the accompanying graphs.

### Possible Services of the School

It should be reasonably evident without comment that no city can think of providing a program for its school children through any one of the activities mentioned. The effective day of the child during the summer is not less than twelve

The Washtenaw County Directory which Dr. Curtis mentions bears the sub-title "Highways-Byways and Places of Interest Historical-Scenic-Educational-Recreational." It is most attractively printed in colors and is profusely illustrated. In addition to the directory listing 58 places of interest, twelve sightseeing drives, twelve golf courses and seven hikes, as well as bathing beaches and canoe trips, there is a map which motorists will find of great value. Copies may be secured at the Business Office of the University. Any group planning to issue a publication of this type will find the Washtenaw County Directory helpful.

hours. On that basis a summer vacation of twelve weeks yields 1,008 hours as contrasted with 900 hours of a 36 week school year of five day weeks and five hour days. There are two kinds of education, one of which consists of the storing away of knowledge like grain in a bin. At its best it produces a savant. There is another kind which consists in learning to do things and to know people. This is the type of education that makes the skilled workman, the professional man and the politician.

Our opportunity of training in the active and social side of life comes in a large measure in the summer vacation, and in this development the four activities outlined play an important part. All the activities are educational and in their development the school may take a forward step.

It is possible that camps may be assigned to school systems if desired in the new areas now being acquired and developed by the National Park Service. Many school systems already take children to see points of interest that are near by and some that are distant. Why should we not put two weeks of travel into the program for each year from the sixth grade on?

Every school should own a bus. The Boy Scouts from Ann Arbor have taken three long trips this past summer running around 1,700 miles each and occupying two weeks. They carried their own tents and cooked their own meals, and it cost them between \$5.00 and \$6.00 a week for all expenses except the salary for the scoutmaster. General Motors states that a bus empty will make ten miles on a gallon of gas and loaded with 35 children it will make nine and a half, that it will cost less than a third of a cent a mile per child for them to see the country in this way. Now if the high school costs \$75 per child for tuition and it costs practically about \$3.00 for board and incidentals of a child at home, to spend \$5.00 a week to see America would be about what it is now costing to keep them in school.

I should like to suggest seven trips for this program: One to historic New England with its colleges, mountains and return by Niagara Falls; a second to New York, the Atlantic shore of New Jersey, Philadelphia, Washington, historic Virginia and a return through the Tennessee Valley; a third to the gulf coast; a fourth along the Mississippi Valley, possibly as far as Mexico City, to include Santa Fe and Taos on return; a fifth to our national parks of the West; a sixth to the Columbia Valley, Washington and Oregon, and

the seventh to California, Arizona and the Grand Canyon. One of my friends covered this western trip last summer with a Chevrolet, a caravan trailer and a party of seven. The entire cost was a little under \$10.00 per week for each.

The travel of youth has been made cheap in Europe by the hostels. We have hundreds of CCC camps many of which must soon be abandoned, and the government is now building a vast series of camps on the land being retired from agriculture. The government should be willing to promote the seeing of America by school children in any way that is normally possible.

The choice of spending the summer on the farm is already here for vast numbers of children, but it may be that we need also farm boarding houses like the dude ranches in parts of the West. Farm people can afford to board children cheaper than anyone else if they have the room.

It would seem to me also that there is a place in America for the junior agricultural school similar to those in Denmark and in Russia, which might be the summer session of our rural consolidated schools. This would imply that the school should have a large farm in connection and either a dormitory or a place where the children could camp for the summer. A program of a half day in practical agriculture with a half day in scouting and sports should make an excellent summer program for city children at very slight expense.

#### Planning for Leisure

If the working week is to be reduced to thirty or thirty-five hours, our children are going to have a longer day at their studies than their parents at their jobs, also in all probability, quite as much anxiety. If one is to spend his work time in tending an automatic machine and putting bolts through holes, there is not much that the school can teach that will help. Henry Ford says there are 40,000 men in his factory that gain their full technical skill in one day. The art of living is not so simple. To prepare for this new leisure, the school should teach all children to swim and dance and sing and to play tennis and volley ball and softball, but still more, it should teach them to plan for their leisure time.

The schools may not be in a position to take over the camps, travel, and other activities enumerated, to administer, but they surely must hold it a part of their obligation to help children organize their summers. With this objective in

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# Chicago Pioneers on New Frontiers

By V. K. BROWN

**T**HE RECREATION CONGRESS differs from many of the professional conventions in that it welcomes workers in the field of community recreation who have not yet reached the salary brackets which permit them to disregard expenses. The registration fee is nominal, the convention does not feature expensive banquets or social affairs, and arrangements are always made with the host hotel to provide rooms at minimum cost. The Congress management gives much thought to so planning the event that workers whose income is limited need not go beyond the limits of a modest income in order to enjoy the benefits of attendance, nor feel embarrassed by the fact that they must carefully watch expenses during the Congress itself.

When Chicago proposed bringing this year's Recreation Congress to the mid-west, Robert J. Dunham, President of the Chicago Park District, played an exceedingly vital part in the financial arrangements which have made the Congress possible. His calm and dispassionate faith in recreation is the sane and observant attitude of a man who expects progress to come through the plodding tread of the masses marching toward higher levels and not by the exertion of any tugging efforts applied to the boot straps of society. In all of our planning to serve the



Robert J. Dunham, President of the Chicago Park District, is a nationally known, successful business executive now retired and devoting his life to public service. Widely known also as the man who has administered the Illinois Emergency Relief organization for the past few years, President Dunham will not be an utter stranger to Congress delegates. Many will learn for the first time, however, of his keen interest in, and authoritative knowledge of, the broad subject of recreation in modern community life. No man knows better than does he that pioneering now must be on new frontiers, and that the rugged individualist no longer can take his axe and go beyond the last outpost to hew his cabin out of the old-time wilderness.

leisure of this city in our newly reorganized Park District his immediate perception of the goals toward which we have been striving has never failed.

## New Goals

They have been new goals. As I pointed out in an article in the July issue of RECREATION, the service of our recreation department thirty years ago was a service to the idle hour; we direct our present service to the idle half day. Our thought then was of an offset to the tensions and the monotony of hours, largely occupied by work or business. Now we are thinking of life as an aim in itself, preparation for, and enjoyment of it, to be pursued when released from the ordered economy of work and sleep, with only intervals of play, and plunged into the economy where we must ourselves organize half of our lives in leisure. Circumstances, and the job, thirty years ago, operated many of the controls which governed us; circumstances appear now, to be no longer making

our decisions and hewing our character for us. We dealt with youth in our park and playground institutions thirty years ago; we deal with a new and different youth today. Play had meanings then; it now has different and added meanings. Sports, games, and dances, constituted then our major relaxations; now we have suddenly



awakened to the thought that while a gymnasium class, or a swim, a game of golf, or baseball, or softball, may be an adequate answer to the needs of the idle hour, they do not constitute an answer to the needs of a half day of leisure. The adult generation of that time exhausted its imagination in building the machine; the rising generation of today finds the machine already built, and ready to hand, and its imagination starts where the older generation's imagination is leaving off. My generation built the motor car. It took the mechanical genius of forty years to do it. My ten year old son, however, was cradled in the family automobile; he went to sleep to the hum of the vacuum sweeper, and he never saw an ice box. Appliances are meeting his needs, and his adventures differ from mine as do the devices of the home. I learned to pitch by trial and error; he goes to see the film "Play Ball" and the slow motion picture analyzes every element of the game for him. Yet he needs his personal problems with which to wrestle, just as he must have his individual accomplishments and masteries.

Two observations have seemed to us fundamental in planning our new program of service adapted to our present necessities. The first is that we think we may expect people to use this enlarged leisure in acquainting themselves with a larger variety of subjects. We think that the future will find people interested in many more things than did the past. We expect that people will seek variety by turning to a more varied set of subjects for attention. Our second thought is that finding things of especial interest, we shall have time now to carry our inquiries deeper into the subject of our particular attention—that we shall do more experimenting, more studying; that our hobbies will be carried to much greater degree of specialization, and that out of this larger devotion of time and attention there will come more complete mastery of the subject, so that the amateur photographer, for example, is not to be expected to content himself merely with a large number or variety of pictures. We think we can confidently expect of him that there will be more of art in his pictures, that he will go into composition and arrangement, into values of lights and shadows, into color photography,

In the July issue of *RECREATION* Mr. Brown, who is Chief of the Recreation Division, Chicago Park District, told of the holding of the first Recreation Congress in Chicago in 1907, and gave us the background of the recreation movement in that city. In this issue Mr. Brown outlines the new goals toward which Chicago is working, and describes the new techniques operating in an expanding and changing program.

and make of his hobby an art.

### Encouraging Recreational Self-Sufficiency

Conceiving, then, that public recreation must cover a much wider range of interests, and that it must encourage and un-

derstand advanced specialization, we were immediately confronted with the very practical necessities of a retrenchment budget. Manifestly, we could not multiply indefinitely our overhead of leadership and instruction. We could not provide, in the face of universal leisure, intimate personal attendance upon every individual, at public expense. And, if we should take advantage of the wealth of personnel available for the moment through Work Relief, we should only defeat our ultimate purpose by accustoming the public to a sort of valet service in recreation impossible of permanent maintenance. When personally conducted recreation service ends with the resumption of normal conditions, we should then discover that we have not contributed to recreational self-sufficiency in our communities, but rather to a sort of recreational dependency, making necessary a fresh start and a complete collapse of the program to which our public have become accustomed.

As President of the Board of Park Commissioners, Mr. Dunham has helped us in clearly seeing this danger, and while he supported, sometimes at sacrifice of other elements of the park system, an adequate budget, even a generous budget, for the Recreation Division, he insisted that the new services and the expansions of program be put on a permanent footing as to cost and personnel; and that the methods of promotion and organization emphasize club groups rather than classes, co-workers and consultants rather than individual teachers, adventure rather than instruction, and that self-help and cooperative group action be the keynote throughout.

One of the best illustrations of this new technique is the development of our photographic clubs. We have no paid instructor in photography. We do have one of our workers with boys' groups in our crafts program—a former member of a spontaneously developed photographic club of some years' standing in one of our parks, who has advised community groups interested in photog-



raphy on the experience of his own former club, and has assisted them to organize, to develop programs, to equip their own dark rooms and set up the machinery for independent existence. Without any cost to the taxpayer, a number of vigorous photography clubs have come into being. From their product in art photography a picture is selected monthly, representative of the best work done during the month among these various groups. One of the most interesting is the miniature camera club, developing enlargements from thumb-nail photographs. So vigorous is the life of these organizations and so enthusiastic their members that we feel they are an established feature of the city, certain to continue and develop.

For purposes of distinguishing the specialties of women and girls from those of men and boys, we have styled our boys' constructive enterprises "Crafts," our girls' and women's, "Art Crafts." With a limited group of specialized and expert co-workers, women's and girls' Art Crafts clubs are now engaged in projects such as weaving, pottery, fabric decoration, etc., numbering more than sixty separate and distinct types of activity, and the men's and boys' Crafts groups are engaged in an even larger number of distinct productive enterprises. There are kite clubs, model airplane clubs, boy mechanics making miniature metal engines — according to the last report of which activity more than 250 lads have built small engines since the first of this year, every one of which was successfully operated as an actually performing mechanism.

The dramatics director has made more use of relief personnel than any of our other specialists,

setting up his scenery and costume producing shops with work relief operators, transcribing plays and music, developing troupes, and using some professional talent on relief to provide high class dramatic entertainment in the fieldhouses of the Park System. Here, too, however, the emphasis has been placed on the use of community talent and the encouragement of self-maintaining dramatic organizations.

The Choral Directors Guild of Chicago, an organization of thousands of superior musicians of the city, donated their services recently in producing for the first time in America Handel's great oratorio "Theodora." It was staged on the classic southern face of the great Field Museum structure in Grant Park, in the heart of the city, other volunteers dramatizing the action, while selected artists of the dance contributed their services as a magnificent ballet. If any proof were needed that people now having time to devote to their special enthusiasms will actually carry their hobbies into such refinement as to make arts of them, and that out of this movement toward higher

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Chicago Junior Yachtsmen have their own shipbuilding industry in the Park District's Crafts program

# Oklahoma City's Weekly Community Programs

**E**IGHTEEN schools of dance, drama and music and seven concert bands are cooperating with the park and playground officials of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, in making possible the varied programs which from week to week are attracting thousands of people to the parks to enjoy community nights. In addition, hundreds of singers, dancers and musicians representing no definite organizations are contributing their services.

## The Procedure

In planning for the programs all available talent is listed in the recreation office under the direction of a playground program director. This director meets with the volunteer entertainers once a month to arrange and schedule programs for four weeks in advance. (These entertainers are referred to as "guest talent" because they go from park to park as guest performers. The term "local talent" includes the entertainers enlisted and trained by the playground supervisors at each park.)

The guest talent is scheduled by the program director for only part of each program every week, giving plenty of opportunity for local talent. For example, community singing will open a program followed by alternate numbers from a concert band and from dance and dramatic schools. Local talent, consisting of short plays, dances, songs, handcraft and first aid exhibitions, is introduced into the program at appropriate times. No program runs more than an hour. Community singing has become so popular that special nights have been set aside for it with the Recreation Department furnishing competent accompanists and song leaders.

Two special programs are now serving for their second year with the Park Department with repeated success. One is the girls' drill team of the Modern Woodmen of America which has won state and national championships. The other is a

Last year the Park and Recreation Department of Oklahoma City conducted a system of weekly community programs which were enjoyed by more than 300,000 people. Three hundred programs were presented in the parks last summer. This year's attendance is expected to exceed 500,000. In this article Grant W. Danielson, recreation director of the Department, tells of some of the methods which were found successful.

miniature circus arranged and conducted by the city zoo keeper, a former circus performer and animal trainer. Known as Uncle Leo to practically every child in Oklahoma by virtue of his weekly radio broadcasts for a number of years, the zoo keeper is one of the most popular characters in the State. His programs invariably draw overflow crowds.

Besides clowns, magicians

and acrobats, Uncle Leo brings to the park many smaller animals such as bear and lion cubs to show the children who have found it impossible to go to the zoo.

The system of handling these programs from the executive standpoint has been perfected by several years of experience. Twenty-one parks have programs at least once a week. These entertainments are scattered throughout the week, and care is taken to see that programs falling on the same night are distributed over the city and are not conducted in the same neighborhood.

Seven large amphitheaters with natural rock stages and beautiful terraced lawns which serve for seats are used in presenting some of the programs. Ranging in seating capacity from 2,500 to 14,000, these amphitheaters are located in various parks of the city. At other parks lighted tennis courts are used for stages with high terraces rising from the sides of the courts to supply the turf on which the audience sits. Still other parks which have none of the natural advantages offered drain their wading pools which are of variable depth and place park benches in rows in the pools. This gives the effect of a theater seating arrangement. A movable platform is placed on the edge of each pool in the deep end.

The Department has eliminated the responsibility of "props" for guest talent by asking the entertainers to furnish their own properties exclusive of pianos, platforms and public address systems. The platforms are of the movable type

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# Nation-Wide Recreation

By JACOB BAKER  
Assistant Administrator  
Works Progress Administration

TO FULFILL the function assigned to it under the Emergency Relief Act as passed by the Congress, it was necessary for the Federal Relief Administration to concern itself with the problem of recreation. Adequate relief, it was quickly realized, has become inextricably meshed in this problem. Millions of competent and willing workers, upstanding citizens, were jobless and unable to provide through their own efforts for their families, their children. But subsistence alone—food, clothing, shelter—was not enough.

## Importance of Recreation

The loss of gainful employment was immediately reflected in every aspect of the life of the American worker and his dependents. No longer the necessary provider, he ceased to be the nucleus of family life, with the result that there was a marked breaking-down of the sanctions and structure of the American home. These functional changes in the orderly routine of family life, even apart from the major one of human want and destitution, threatened, and still threaten, profound psychological and physical dislocations in the lives of both the individual and the State.

While recreation was generally recognized as an efficient tool to combat the demoralizing effect of the depression, the recognition was at first more academic than factual. The Federal Government, governments of the several states, local, municipal and county governments, and school districts throughout the country, admitted their responsibility. Nevertheless, as the need grew greater and the numbers of unemployed increased, there was a decrease in recreational facilities offered by the sectional governments—a decrease not only in proportion to demand, but in the number of "plants" actually operating. This, of course, was the result of budgetary difficulties. As the de-

pression threw men out of employment, it cut down on the various state and municipal budgets. And often the first to go

under the cuts were the recreational programs.

Budget restrictions not only prohibited extension of recreational means demanded by the vastly increased unemployment but it clamped down on existing facilities. For example, in the county of Los Angeles were 268 playgrounds, only 64 of which were equipped and staffed to operate. Similar conditions existed in countless localities throughout the country.

It was not until the third year of the depression that the Federal Emergency Relief Administration was created. It promptly realized the seriousness of the recreation problem and began organizing measures for its relief. Demands were being made upon it from all sections of the country. At first these demands came from thickly populated urban centers; later, and with equal urgency, came the volume of appeals from rural districts. In its responses to the earlier demands there is evidence that the Federal Government looked upon them as a means of giving immediate work-relief, rather than the first move toward assuming its share of responsibility for a nation-wide recreation program.

The primary purpose, therefore, of the FERA, in stepping into local recreation, was to give employment to needy persons. Then came recognition of their right to public recreation, recognition of the fact that all the people—not merely the select few with means, but all, all types and classes—have the right to use their leisure time advantageously through facilities and opportunities created by public agencies.

## Many New Recreation Facilities Provided

In its approach to recreation as a work-relief measure, the FERA advanced on two fronts: (1) the construction

Readers of RECREATION who scanned even briefly the May issue of the magazine containing the Year Book, must have been impressed with the statistics given in the section of the report dealing with Emergency Relief Service, and with statements telling of the extent of the work being done through ERA. So significant have these developments been that we welcome the opportunity to present to our readers a first-hand report from the Government giving the background of the project and some of the achievements in terms of the human values involved.





Such swimming pools as this one at Charleston, South Carolina, have been built in all parts of the country

of plant, and (2) the development of recreational activities. The

need for the first was obvious; and immediately a great number of work projects were got under way for the building of recreation facilities.

So intensive was the program carried on that today forty-seven states, Hawaii, and Puerto Rico, report permanent monuments to its progress. A total of some twenty thousand construction projects are marked "complete" on the lists; running from the 131 stadiums, through the 532 new community service centers down to the last children's wading pool built, no facility necessary to public recreation has been overlooked. Nor has any section of the country been neglected. Spotting the map from coast to coast, the development has been uniform:

St. Augustine, Florida—a new community service center. Twenty-one states now report community service centers which are carrying on two or more recreational activities.

Salem, Massachusetts—Cat Cove Beach and swimming pool development, one of the five hundred odd beaches and pools that have been made available through work-relief projects.

New Hampshire—a series of hostels, trails,

summer camp sites, throughout the State.

Other states, stimulated

by the Works Progress Administration and the new Youth Administration, are developing this facility for vacation-recreation at a minimum cost.

Bergen, New Jersey—a large stadium in Veteran's Park, one of the two hundred stadiums to the credit of work-relief projects.

Illinois—Pere Marquette State Park, one of the numerous state parks extended and improved.

Sioux City, Iowa—a beautiful Beaux-Arts prize design orchestra shell. New orchestra and band shells may be found from Washington, D. C. to San Diego, California, but the one in Sioux City is the masterpiece.

Safford, Arizona—a brand new municipal park complete in every detail and conforming to the latest approved ideas on park service. The tract used for this project had been a county poor farm—a social "wasteland" now made useful to humanity.

San Francisco, California—the old Ingleside Prison remodelled and the 13 acre site converted into a recreation center with swimming pools, a



theater, gymnasium, club rooms, and an athletic field.

And so on, through a great variety of projects, each one the work of relief labor, and a permanent contribution to the social well-being of the country.

Incidental to the main objective, a side excursion into public hygiene may be here noted. In many crowded cities play streets were cleaned up and vacant lots and dump heaps were cleared out. Chicago alone reports sixty vacant lots cleared of their litter and converted into temporary playgrounds. In each instance this served as an incentive to a general neighborhood clean-up.

This, of course, is by no means the end of the story. In following the lead of its predecessor, the WPA acknowledges that recreation plant construction meets the practical principles of emergency public employment stated by President Roosevelt in his message of January 4th, 1935 to the Congress of the United States: Recreational work-relief projects are flexible, and can offer employment where there is the greatest need; most of their expenditures go directly to local unemployed labor; they do not compete with private enterprise, and, most important of all, they make permanent contributions to better living conditions and increased opportunities for more abundant living.

In spite of the fact that the construction has been so vast, it still must be admitted that it has not met all needs. However, the rate of construction marks a tremendous speeding-up in this field; it is estimated that FERA has advanced the construction of recreation facilities in this country by at least twenty-five years.

#### Recreational Leadership Increased

While the construction work employed a vast array of engineers, draftsmen, mechanics and other labor in the building trades, it failed to provide proportional work-relief for the large army of unemployed white-collar workers. It was to fill in this void that the service recreation projects were developed. They were placed on equal footing with construction, on the ground that they were of equal permanent social value. Also, it was observed that recreational service paid for itself in the positive values created for society, and in the reduction which can be reasonably

expected in tax costs for delinquency, ill health and accidents.

In its scope the recreational service program of the FERA went far beyond the construction of projects. It was not restricted to the physical plant. It went beyond that; it went out on the streets, and into the homes. It touched on every phase of human life — every age, type, and class of people living in this country. It took up the task of supplementing existing facilities and services in places where they already existed; it expanded old services and created new. Where there was an established program, it diversified the activities under it. Where there was no program, it supplied the stimulus and the initiating force for the inauguration of one. And it acted as a clearing house for information as to technique and methods, throughout the country.

These functions of the FERA on the recreation service side will now be taken over by the new Works Progress Administration, which can be expected to extend and broaden them, partly in cooperation with the new Youth Administration, but more intensively through its Professional and Service Projects Division.

The value of the recreation service projects to society in general is two-fold: it gives employment to thousands as playground directors, instructors in sports, leaders of groups, supervisors of camps, specialized teachers, museum workers, actors, musicians, and artists; and in turn, through their employment millions of others find occupation, education, and recreation.

Fundamental to the development of the recreation programs was the need for well-trained personnel. As an Arizona report points out, "The poorest camp from a physical standpoint, with the 'right' personnel can outdo an elaborately equipped one lacking in this respect." For the problem of leisure activities is one of human psychology, of handling people, not machines—it is a highly sensitive and subtle task. "Nothing is more difficult for man than to know what to do with his leisure," wrote Goethe. And he who would teach his fellows this difficult art must be particularly well endowed.

**"The facilities most urgently needed at present are those facilities which pay for themselves, not in direct cash return, but in recognized social and citizenship values created, and in the reduction of other taxation costs."—President Roosevelt in a message to the Congress.**

It speaks volumes for the quality of those on the relief rolls that so little difficulty was encountered in developing competent leadership. With a little schooling many high type leaders have been de-

veloped. The supply, of course, is not yet stepped up to the rapidly growing demand. But by means of training institutions, manuals of instruction and regional conferences, it is hoped that the deficiency will be shortly wiped out. In this connection it is noteworthy that various state Emergency Relief Administrations, in cooperation with organizations such as the National Recreation Association, have trained a fairly adequate body of leaders.

The greatest difficulty in this field lies in developing leadership in rural areas. A few of the states, notably North Dakota and Alabama, have what amounts to a traveling training school for recreation leaders; periodically it moves from county to county, giving a series of short but comprehensive courses in each.

The effect of the large inflow of non-academic personnel into the field of recreation, viewing it even from the purely professional angle, has been of great value. The new leaders have been singularly effective in extending recreational activities. They have brought vital blood, a fresh point of view. Coming more directly from the people, from the relief rolls, theirs is a first hand knowledge of the condition of their fellows, and of the needs of the moment. The new leaders, on the whole, have been quick to devise activities to meet the changing circumstances, the immediate demands.

Tied up as it is with work-relief allotments to a given locality, the personnel of a recreation service project in that locality is bound to be representative. It must, at least, know its neighborhood. Only a highly sensitive and responsive neighborliness could have devised many of the noteworthy recreation service activities.

It has been found, for example, that hobby clubs have a social emphasis which has made them more appealing than didactic classes. Put on the social and play basis of a hobby pastime, a group of people may be led to constructive and educational use of their leisure without realizing

it. But the hobby must be devised to fit the neighborhood, the specific need. A number of the most successful handcraft developments have originated in this manner. Again, a neighborhood may have a peculiar sectarian slant, a foreign racial background, a limited educational standard, or a certain skilled type of workers may predominate; all these are factors which a competent personnel will understand and reflect. The play guidance of Negro youth in Mississippi varies from that of the Negroes in New York's Harlem. A "rigger" game organizer for Welsh tin-workers in a mill town in northwestern Pennsylvania offers them more recreation than would an expert baseball coach. The leader who proposed the peasant

paper-cutting craft project so successfully in a section of Chicago had to know something of the aptitude of his Polish neighbors.

#### Studies of Juvenile Delinquency

Where the training and competence of leaders and play instructors becomes of first importance is in the field of juvenile delinquency. The play-schooling of youth is of vital concern in modern life, particularly during the present crisis. A number of states developed projects to survey the problem.

One of them, New Jersey, reported that the records of Juvenile Courts showed that 90 percent of the delinquents got into trouble after 3 P. M.; the other ten percent were truants. A study of 733 paroled from Annadale Reformatory revealed that out of 136 who used their leisure time constructively only one failed on parole; while of the rest, one in five failed. An exhaustive survey in California practically repeats these figures. But there is noted a reduction of from 50 to 85 percent in delinquency cases under active playground programs; the range being due to variations in competency of leadership, and cultural standards of home life.

A few of the surveys checked on the repercussion from children in directed recreation ac-

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The very young and the very old find a common interest in the Santa Claus toy repair project in San Francisco

# A State Recreation Project

**T**HAT RECREATION has in the last few years become a recognized public necessity is well shown in the report of the National Resource Board to the President. That report states, "The study of a particular problem may involve several other problems and the development of almost any sound project requires the study of uses of land—for agriculture and irrigation, industry and commerce, water storage, forestry, recreation and the conservation of wild life. The final test of the value of a proposed plan is not found in land, or water, or in dollars and cents alone, but in people. Hence it is that the committee lists recreation, not as a luxury but as a necessity."

To help communities provide wholesome recreation for children and adults and to meet the needs of the new day in a way which will make for citizenship and for community morale should be the purpose of all recreation projects.

The new day of more leisure time has seen the birth of a desire on the part of people for more of the good things of life, more opportunity for self-expression and participation in community activities which go toward making a more abundant life. This desire on the part of people must be squarely faced by government administrators as the very principle which democracy embodies, namely the establishment of governmental agencies which will provide the organization and administration of public necessities.

The trend toward the shorter working day and week, as it affects the adult, seems to be a permanent one. At the same time modern life provides infinite opportunity for choices both good and bad on the part of the average man. Our present government finds itself confronted with the problem of providing facilities which will enable the masses to live good lives as well as earn good livings. Only recently have people begun to realize that education which trains men for work and not for play is a job only half done. Turning people loose on the world with no skills or interest for the occupation of leisure time is one of the most serious problems facing civilization today. One

**The State Recreation Project in California is sponsored by the State Department of Education. Raymond Hoyt, formerly of the Los Angeles Playground and Recreation Department, until very recently was the Supervisor of the Project.**

need only to turn to our great crime problems and to realize that the average age of our most desperate criminals is twenty years.

It is plainly of immeasurable importance that this new leisure, as it is so often called, be directed wisely. Proper use of leisure demands proper places and opportunities for the utilization of this free time.

In our large metropolitan areas public recreation has been administered by governmental agencies. This has been possible because of the ability to finance a program through public taxation. Small communities and rural areas are less fortunate in that they do not have the necessary financial aid.

## The ERA's Opportunity

Through the use of Federal and State Relief funds the establishment of community recreation in smaller communities and rural areas has been made possible. The purpose of this work in most instances has been to assist communities in the establishment and promotion of programs, the construction of facilities and the fostering of community culture and social life.

A most unusual opportunity for the development of the field of recreation throughout the country has appeared in the use of Federal Funds under the Federal government's relief programs. Many fine and outstanding things have been done. Facilities such as playgrounds, community centers, parks, golf courses, swimming pools, community theaters, gymnasiums and camps have been constructed. All of these are permanent and lasting improvements to communities and will benefit not only those who are at present able to use them but also those who will come later.

Another outstanding contribution to the recreation movement has been the development of the



leadership program for both children and adults. A great many states have organized state-wide emergency recreation projects which have developed in a number of different ways. In those municipalities and communities where recreation already exists as a public function, the program has been expanded to meet the needs of a vast increase in demand. In other places where no previous recreation existed, community recreation programs have been initiated. Such activities as sports and athletics, community dramatics, music, arts and crafts, have been carried on under this work.

During the last two years communities throughout California have benefited greatly from the use of Federal Funds. This work has been made possible through the work of the State Emergency Relief Administration. This work has consisted not only of the construction of facilities but also the use of workers who have been assigned to recreation projects and programs.

The work is carried on by a staff of recreation workers which consists of a state supervisor and two assistants, one located in the north and one in the south. When expansion is necessary area directors will be appointed who will keep the state project in closer touch with each local community. The administrators of the state recreation project work in an advisory capacity to the authorized agencies who desire to submit local recreation projects. This is for the purpose of coordinating the local emergency educational and recreational programs, as well as advising for the wisest program. After the project has been reviewed and is recommended by the state recreation project supervisor it is submitted by the authorized public agency to the local county Relief Administration where the established regular procedure for projects prevails.

#### The Procedure

Experience has shown that the most effective method in California of establishing emergency recreation has proved to be the establishment of civic commissions or recreation boards of from five to seven members in each local community which desires a project. This group includes representatives from the City Council, Board of Education and other municipal departments and civic organizations, including both men and women. The members of this commission are in most instances outstanding citizens of the community. The work of this group has been to outline a

program for the community, to raise funds for equipment, to appoint a man to supervise the project and to promote the program of facilities and activities. The commission is the organization that makes application, sometimes through the City Council, the School Department or the County Board of Supervisors. This application is made through the local County SERA director and his staff. The project usually consists of the appointment of people who have had some experience in recreation work to such jobs as playground supervisors, games leaders, music leaders, drama organizers and leaders, leaders in hobbies and crafts such as leather craft and woodcraft, boys' and girls' club leaders, camp leaders and sports leaders. Other workers on these projects include caretakers, maintenance men, nurses, leather repair men and others.

When these people are assigned to a project they are given a training course, in most cases, under the supervision of the local project supervisor. At the conclusion of this training work they are assigned to the jobs that best suit their capabilities. Many of the larger counties have organized the recreation under a county-wide project sponsored by the County Board of Supervisors and supervised by a county recreation supervisor with an assistant supervisor over each large local program. The latter plan has proven quite successful as it provides a closer coordination between the SERA administrators and the project sponsors and also makes possible a more efficient method of supervision and training.

The outlook for the expansion of this work is very promising. It has been the purpose of those promoting this work to build for permanency.

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Testimony to the value of ERA leadership comes from a newspaper in Ocean County, New Jersey. "Few Ocean Countians or even local relief people realize just what this leisure time movement means to many people. When men and women are willing to take oil stoves from great distances to heat up a hall; when the men are willing to cart a borrowed piano for each and every occasion; when men and women and boys and girls look forward from one month to another to these gatherings, you begin to see their true value and real meaning. It is quite impossible to measure the length, depth and breadth of the service rendered by the leisure time folks who kept every schedule, blizzard or no blizzard, during these demoralizing days of enforced or partial idleness."



# The Dance in the Recreation Program

By  
GEORGE SYME, JR.

"The dance is the rhythmic yearning of the whole body toward aspirations we cannot define."—Emmanuel

WHILE MUCH has been said and published about athletics, games, music, handcraft and similar activities, the dance as a part of the recreation program has not in the past been stressed as many feel its values merit. During the past few years, however, dancing has begun to receive an increasing amount of attention in the fields of physical education and recreation, though some difference of opinion has arisen regarding the educational and recreative values of dancing, the desirability of certain types of dancing, and the advisability of recreation departments assuming responsibility for giving instruction in dancing.

What place, then, shall dancing take in our recreation program?

Throughout the ages the dance has played an important part in the life of man. To every man, woman and child there comes at times an impulse to express his emotions in rhythm. This outlet of a man's feelings may be through one of two channels—singing or dancing. Singing is a verbal expression of these emotions. Dancing expresses these emotions in bodily movements. Sometimes these movements are meaningless; nevertheless they provide a definite satisfaction to the individual. Many dances often interpret an idea, and when done in a way that make them an inspiration to others, the performer becomes an artist and his work an art. "To express the noblest and most profound sentiments of the human soul—this is the function of the dance," said Isadora Duncan.

Dancing teachers the country over say that the majority of people attending their

studios today have no professional aspirations but come purely for their own personal improvement. This may be for personal reasons alone such as health, mental relaxation, and figure building. Others derive a certain enjoyment from being able to execute a few movements in rhythm. Business and professional girls and women and housewives are filling many of our larger studios. They have no desire to go on the stage but are attending solely for the recreational and healthful exercise offered by the dance. Doctors for years have recommended dancing for children as one of the best and most enjoyable mediums for developing strength, health, and graceful bodies.

## Outdoor Dancing

While many city recreation departments conduct dancing as part of their indoor community center programs, few cities make provision for summer out-of-door dancing. Here we have failed to utilize nature's offering—soft green grass to replace hard wooden dance floors, and the blue sky for a ceiling with trees and flowers as a background. In conducting classes in the open we must forget the routine of an indoor program and start off unfettered to make the most of our new

settings. Our dances should be arranged in harmony with our new environment. They should be built around nature themes such as water studies, cloud dances, Indian and character dances. Folk dancing, acrobatic and social dances lend themselves to outdoor programs and in many sections of the country are extensively

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Mr. Syme, who has had experience both as a teacher of dancing and a director of recreation, will contribute to RECREATION a series of articles on dancing. He will suggest dance material suitable for use in the recreation program and will, throughout his articles, keep in mind the needs of the recreation director. Mr. Syme will be glad to answer, in the columns of the magazine, any questions our readers may wish to ask.

# A City Builds Teams from Gangs

By  
RICHARD JAMES HURLEY

IN THE SECOND YEAR of our program in Little Falls, New York, we found our staff reduced from fifteen to seven and the play centers from seven to five. At the same time, we had an increase to 345 in the membership of the League and a program calling for a schedule of soft ball, volley ball, horseshoe pitching, track events, checkers, and paddle teams. There was the usual playground program, and there were hikes and other projects to be conducted at the same time.

The increase in activity plus a 50 percent decrease in staff demanded changes in our methods of dealing with the gangs and teams and called for a high degree of efficiency and organization, with greater control and more responsibility placed upon members of the League.

In June, before the closing of school, we gathered together a hundred or so team representatives to discuss League changes. The main results were a renewal of interest, a mutual spirit of loyalty and a change in team grading from the senior "A" and junior "B" to a four-way grouping of Senior, Intermediate, Junior and Midget. Age and ability were the deciding factors and the age limits were roughly 16-20, 14-16, 11-14 and 9-11. The team captains and managers met later to decide in what divisions the various teams would go. They did their work so well that it was not necessary to make any changes during the season. The Midget section developed like Topsy—it just "grewed." The big boys realized that they could have their fun and yet give the little chaps a chance to be League members.

Another change was in the personnel of the League. We added six Midget teams that made their division a success, but our Senior group proved troublesome. Better working conditions, summer school and the unfavorable attitude of parents toward the playing of older boys, cut into both membership and efficiency. We decided to abandon the division unless it had at least the five



teams which we felt necessary for healthful competition. The Seniors recruited and had a good season. We plan in the future, however, to advance each division, adding a new Midget group each year and dropping the Seniors who will be invited to act as aides. Under the new conditions twenty of the twenty-three teams finished their season instead of last year's eighteen of twenty-two, a tribute to the boys' interest under handicaps.

Our reduced personnel forced us to divide responsibility among all directors instead of following our ideal one-man, full-time system. League formation, scheduling, team standings and publicity were main activities with one director coordinating them. The results were spotty but these we felt to be due more to individual differences than to any fault in the idea itself. We had 300 inches for the eight weeks of play. True, there were misspelled names, wrong scores, good plays we had failed to note, but nothing serious occurred. The sport notes were literally memorized and corrections and comments were outstanding topics. The constructive tone aided greatly in building League morale.

Activities were both team and individual, for we felt that certain boys were "lone wolves" in spite of gang membership. We wished, too, to focus attention on individual effort, for team play

covered a multitude of sins. We increased our track meets, regulating events according to the various divisions, Midgets competing in the 50- and 75-yard dashes and Seniors in the 100- and 220-yard. Paddle tennis, introduced as a playground game, proved to have potentialities as a League activity. Horseshoes is another individual sport which has proved successful for two seasons. Checkers amazed us by its popularity, though the excellent playing of a few detracts from its effectiveness when team standings are at stake. Golf, adapted to restricted areas, deck tennis and similar games are being considered for next season. While we feel individual sports should be stressed there is dispute over the credit that should be given. Should each activity be given a distinct evaluation?

Tug-of-war was tried and found wanting as it was too strenuous for our growing boys. As they said it was "all brawn and no brains." Soft ball and volley ball proved the core of our program with no lessening in interest. There has been much debate over soccer for a summer activity, with no decision as yet. In our scheduling we tried to have the strenuous play in the cool mornings with the quiet, less active games in the hot afternoons and on rainy days.

In preparation for the grand Labor Day "bust-up" we again chose an all-star team but changed the method of play-off. We abandoned the choice of players on the basis of all-season play judged by the director, and had each boy register with his playground director for the position for which he wished to try out. This made it more of an individual proposition and gave a boy, if he had suffered a playing slump, another chance to shine. We likewise omitted the emblems of sportsmanship and prizes because of our financial difficulties, and found to our satisfaction that enthusiasm was as keen as in the past.

Conduct standards were decided upon and enforced this season. Smoking, crap shooting and swearing were taboo on the main playground, with similar rules on the other centers. For a few days we wondered what would happen. There were misunderstandings, but in a few days a spirit of cooperation developed and soon the boys became proud of their standard. Visiting teams obeyed the unwrit-

ten code as they learned about it via the boys' own system of grapevine news. Some boys even suggested methods of enforcing the code, but we left much of this to social pressure. A quiet talk to a visiting boy who smoked was usually all that was necessary. Spontaneous swearing did occur, but none of the deliberate kind. Moreover, this season no equipment was stolen in spite of the field house being open the full time. We required the boys to ask permission to enter the house for any equipment. At first this seemed strange to them, but soon it was still stranger not to ask permission. Often we locked the field house and left horseshoes and checkers and similar equipment in the possession of the players with one boy responsible for the "left outs." The response was 100%. Personal conduct rules made the boy first respect himself and then his playground.

As we reviewed the work of the two years we came to certain conclusions which will condition future policy.

In a League with over 300 boys, one man must give his full, undivided attention to its direction. Problems of team leadership, morale, team and inter-team friction, policies and schedules, require careful attention and must have unity of purpose and design. Again, a real League is inter-city, and someone must go into the byways where boy gangs flourish. A playground director is busy enough with his inter-playground system and does not locate distant groups. His playground may be dominated by certain elements that will keep desirable material from coming.

Any large playground requires two directors; one to maintain a constant schedule of activities and the other to handle League teams on and especially, away from the home lot. Hikes, trips and projects that serve to enrich the program demand individual attention on a full-time scale. Boys should not come to a playground to find it closed.

Each team should have its own set of schedules;

The story of Little Falls' first year's experience in conducting playgrounds was told in the August 1934 issue of *RECREATION*. The story stressed the organization of the Junior League for boys. In this article Mr. Hurley gives us the results of the second year's program which proved to be a somewhat new experiment in forming neighborhood gangs into playground teams rather than merely the continuation of the Junior League as originally organized.

the group should have the means of knowing when, where and what teams they are to play. They may want to post this information in their shack or at some accessible spot. Both director and boy feel the strain of constant checking in this unnecessary way.

Games should be played in the morning during the first

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# Westchester County's Recreation Camp

A camp community lacking in expensive equipment but rich in happy experiences

THE EXTENT to which a communal life, built around the complex relationship of adult to child, can be harmonious and beneficial to all those concerned is demonstrated in the camp community at Croton-on-Hudson, where the Westchester County Recreation Commission has just opened its summer camps. Forty councilors, 130 boys and 100 girls will constitute the population. About two-thirds of the younger section changes at intervals of two or four weeks, so that in all about 700 children will be campers there during the period of July 1st to August 26th.

The permanent nucleus, the staff, unobtrusively serving the children as parents, teachers and playmates, is the backbone of the whole project, according to Charles B. Cranford, camp administrator. Interest in the Croton camp as an example of the application of progressive educational methods, far removed from the confining school room, has brought together an outstanding group of teachers and camp leaders on the councilors' staff. They work and play with a common goal in sight for the campers: first, happiness; second, social adjustment; third, physical well-being.

Unlike privately owned summer camps for children, the county recreation camps are not elaborately equip-

ped resorts. The tuition at the county camps amounts to scarcely more than the sum which would be spent on a child living at home. Since the county bears the brunt of the upkeep, the camps are operated on a skeleton budget. The material facilities are simple. There is an abundance of fresh air and sunshine; there are rolling fields of grass underfoot and tall oaks and maples shading them; a strip of beach bordering the shining waters of the Hudson on one side and the Croton inlet on the other. The little cabins scattered over the point are clean and airy, if plain, and the dining and recreation rooms, workshops and crafts studios are in the same style.

This lack of show has never been considered a limitation, Mr. Cranford points out, but has been

a constructive factor in building up a program of activities patterned as nearly as possible after conditions that might surround any child in his daily living. The combined energies and talents of the councilors go into the program; hence their importance in organization, according to Mr. Cranford:

"Each leader has a twofold function: to take the part of the child's older brother or sister, sharing his or her experiences, guiding him in his social attitudes. The second duty of the



Courtesy Westchester County Recreation Commission



*Courtesy Westchester County Recreation Commission*

**When the bugle sounds the call for meals  
the response is always most gratifying!**

of whom attend this camp in preference to private camps because of the progressive character of the program.

A modicum of regimentation is practised in the daily life. True, a bugle blows to rouse the campers from their cots; there is a bedtime and a time for meals and for "community duties"—cleaning up for which "sanitation squads" volunteer. There are definite swimming periods, but even they are optional; the child can take his swim in the morning or afternoon or not at all, if he so pleases. But beyond this, a daily routine is non-existent. The campers choose the activity in which lies their greatest interest. They gather early in the day, learn where each councilor is going to be and what he or she plans to do.

Thus, the girls' dramatics councilor: "Mary Ann has been working on a play for the party next Friday. She needs a little help in the last

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leaders is to take charge of special activities—nature study, art, crafts, land sports, water sports, dramatics. Some junior men and women on the staff are undergraduates in universities, but most of the councilors are teachers.

"After living with boys and girls twenty-four hours of the day for eight weeks, they return to their teaching posts with a clearer picture of children's needs and problems, and a practical knowledge of the best means of satisfying them. On the other hand, the campers return to their homes imbued with the idea of regard for the other fellow, of alignment with others for the general good."

A portion of the camp community is composed of children from boarding homes maintained by the county's Department of Child Welfare. No differentiation exists at camp between these less fortunate children and the sons and daughters of Westchester citizens, moderately well-off, many

**Where is the boy to be found who wouldn't  
rank fishing above almost any other sport?**



*Courtesy Westchester County Recreation Commission*

# Sioux City's New Amphitheater

By

JOHN E. GRONSETH

Director of Recreation

Sioux City, Iowa

SIoux City's music, art and drama lovers may now enjoy these fine arts in comfort when they attend a concert or drama in Grandview Park. For there in a bowl, forming a natural amphitheater, has been erected a band shell, a structure of beauty befitting its setting, and on the slopes of the hills comfortable seats for spectators.

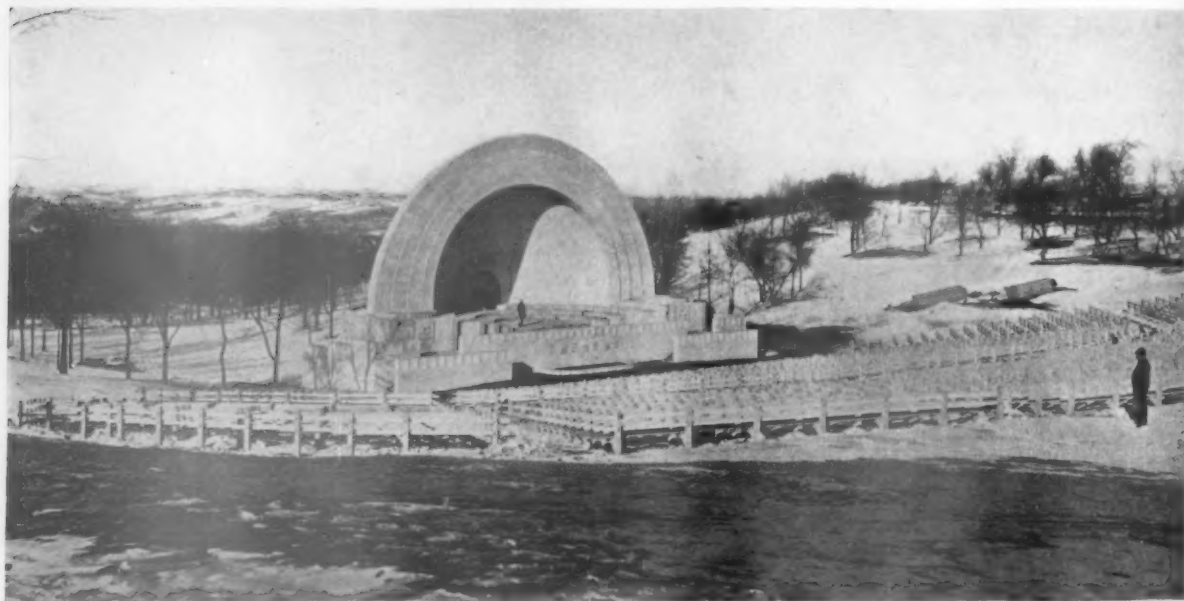
This glen in the wooded heights of Grandview Park is not a new meeting place for Sioux City music and drama enthusiasts. It has long been in use for band concerts, pageants and kindred recreational activities. Some years ago there was built there a wooden bandshell. The audience sat on the grassy bank in lieu of benches, neither an adequate nor comfortable arrangement. This, however, was wholly a makeshift awaiting the time a proper amphitheatre could be built.

This amphitheatre-to-be remained in the minds and imaginations of interested citizens until CWA

The people of Sioux City expect years of satisfaction from their own permanent concrete amphitheater in Grandview Park which was built as a work relief project. Other communities, in planning their PWA project, may well keep in mind the experience of Sioux City in erecting a structure designed to give enduring service to its cultural interests.

work was introduced. While CWA was a project strictly for the relief of the unemployed and did not have as an end civil glorification, in this instance both ends were achieved.

Several converging interests meeting at this point brought reality to a dream. The location and the desire for an amphitheatre were both present in the community, the funds for the work might be obtained if the plan was approved, and a design for the building, which had already drawn favorable attention, was at hand. At an exhibition of architectural drawings, executed by Henry





Kamphoefner, Sioux City architect, held under the auspices of the Sioux City Society of Fine Arts, was shown a design for a monumental band stand. This design had received honorable mention in the first preliminary trial for the 1933 Paris Prize. It pleased the public and at the same time it exactly fulfilled requirements for the Sioux City project. With accommodation in the acoustical shell for three hundred vocalists or one hundred seated musicians, it was suitable for erection in a natural amphitheatre in which, by proper placement and structure of the shell, listeners at a distance would be able to hear the most delicate note.

Undoubtedly this was what Sioux City needed and wanted. Musical organizations, such as the Monahan Post Band, which had a large part in making the project a success, club women, business men, all who were interested in promoting better recreational facilities in their city, endorsed the project.

The architect, in conjunction with the city building contractor and the district engineer, prepared application forms which upon recommendation of the park commissioner were signed by the mayor and the county emergency relief committee. This application then went to the state and federal authorities. President Roosevelt expressed himself as deeply appreciative "of the very fine public spirit and vision manifested by those who are creating this valuable social and recreational asset." On February 26, 1934, the state engineer approved the application and within ten days the ground was broken and the dream started to be a tangible reality.

The total estimated cost of the project was \$51,236 of which \$47,436 was to be paid from CWA funds and the remainder \$3,800 was to come from the city. This was according to general requirements that the city benefited pay a certain percentage of material costs on civil works projects. Materials were figured at slightly more than \$14,000. Labor costs were to be about \$34,500, and the costs of teams and trucks for grading about \$2,500. With continuous labor the project would have been completed by May but owing to lulls in relief activities the last concrete was not poured until October 17.

The band shell is placed in a hollow deep enough to give ample seating space for 10,000 spectators although only 6,000 seats are at present provided. The seats are of wood with reinforced concrete

understructure. From every seat is an adequate view of the stage below. Drama, pageantry, music may be enjoyed both in sight and sound by each spectator.

### Some Construction Details

The spherical ellipse of seats finds itself intersected at its lowest point by a perpendicularly erected semicircle of smooth white concrete one foot high, actually the rim of the truncated right circular half cone which is partially sunk into a podium 102 feet along the front. From either side of this podium are returned staircases that debouch in front to either side of a pool fed from three fountains with aluminum caps, gracing the center of the structure. The staircases are equipped with aluminum hand rails and are accessible from the side and also from the back, so that processions of the most elaborate nature can reach the stage from any direction. The central aisle of the orchestra is on the main axis of the building and there are two secondary aisles on the axes of two great drums which lie on pedestals rising above the staircases and which also visibly terminate the thrusts of the great circular arch.

The shell and its base are one monolithic concrete structure. It is constructed of Portland cement, white cement and reinforcing steel bars. The fluted bands and sculptured plaques are applied ornaments and are made of pre-cast concrete.

The plaques depict the Faun, symbolizing pastoral music, and the Tragic Muse, the deeper subtleties of music. They are the work of Herschel Elarth. They were designed in clay at the Public Works Art Projects studio at Iowa City.

The lighting has been arranged to aid in dramatic production. Eighty-seven lights are concealed in the great arch and project the three primary colors. These may be mixed to produce any color desired. The pool has nine lights for coloring the jets of water.

At the back of the building are rooms: offices for the director, space for the band library, toilets and dressing rooms for the personnel of the band and accommodations for guest performers. An interior stair leads to the shell itself and from this doorway an electrician can control the lighting apparatus and amplify the sound if desirable for speaking purposes.

A movable platform has been provided that can be placed over the concrete tiers to change the permanent seating arrangement for musicians into

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# Some Indian Games

**Ga - Gwe - Gee - Wass (Wrestle).** Two contestants lie on the ground, flat on their stomachs, facing one another. The right elbow rests on the ground with the upper arm in a straight line with the body. Contestants grasp right hands. The left forearm is kept on the ground, parallel to the chest. The object of the game is to make the opponent's right forearm touch the ground by horizontal pushing.

**NOTE:** The Indians had grassy fields upon which to play Ga-Gwe-Gee-Wass. Since playing on the gravel playground surface will bruise the arms of the players, newspapers should be provided to protect them. This stunt may also be played sitting at a table.

**Ab-Bo-Gee-Way-Baa (Push Over).** Two contestants lie on their backs side by side, with hands in opposite directions; each contestant's head rests at a point just opposite his opponent's buttocks. Each contestant places his inside arm straight down by his side with his hand on his opponent's shoulder. Outside hands are on hips. At a signal each contestant lifts his inside leg (knee stiff) to a point just beyond the vertical, hooks ankles with his opponent and attempts to roll his opponent over backward. Either contestant rolled backward loses the bout. Five bouts constitute a match; best three out of five wins the match.

**Che-Che-Sock-a-Way (Hop on one leg).** Two contestants stand facing each other at a distance of five feet. Each stands on the right foot, clasps his left foot with left hand, and places the right arm across the front, clasping the biceps of the left arm. At a signal, each contestant hops forward and attempts by bucking, side-stepping, etc., to overthrow his opponent or compel him to release his grasp on the upheld foot. The contestants are not allowed to use their left hands against each other. Either contestant committing any of these acts loses the bout. If both contestants commit any of them on the same occasion the one doing

**THE** Indian games presented here through the courtesy of the Extension Department, Milwaukee Public Schools, were passed on to the boys of the Milwaukee playgrounds by Chief Wah-be-sko-ga-nah-be (White Feather), John Goslin, of Milwaukee. They are the games which he and his playmates enjoyed in their youth on the Hayward Reservation and at the Carlisle Indian School.

so first loses the bout. Five bouts constitute a match; best three out of five wins the match.

**Ga-Gwe-Gee-Wamengen (Hand Wrestle).** Two contestants stand with feet firmly spread in the stride position, each with his right foot forward, touching the outside of his opponent's foot. They grasp right hands. At a signal each at-

tempts by pulling, pushing, turning and twisting of hands, to over-balance his opponent or compel him to move either foot from its original position. The left hand must not be used against the opponent. Either contestant forced to touch the ground with any part of his body other than his feet, or forced to move either foot, loses the bout. If the contestants break their grasp, they rejoin hands at once. Five bouts constitute a match; best three out of five wins the match.

**We-Bay-Gen (Snatch).** This can be played with from two to ten or more players.

Players are divided into two teams who face each other, standing on a goal line about forty feet apart. Team members stand shoulder to shoulder. The members of each team are numbered consecutively, beginning with number one. On the ground midway between the teams a fairly good-sized piece of hide is placed. A referee calls a number and the two players having that number dash forward to steal the hide and carry it across either of the goal lines without being tagged by the opposing player. If a player steals the hide and crosses the goal line without being tagged, he scores one point for his team. Should he be tagged before crossing the goal line, the opposing team scores a point. At the start of the game a number of points is decided upon.

**Pop-Pa-Ce-Ka-We (A modified La Crosse game).** The Pop-Pa-Ce-Ka-We consists of a leather strip ten to twelve inches long and about two inches wide, at each end of which a ball of soft wadded, firmly sewed cloth is attached. A rope may be

used in place of the strap. Each player is supplied with a branch of a tree or shrub about twenty inches long and not more than an inch in diameter. The playing area is limited; at each end a goal line is drawn. The object of the game is for the players to get the Pop-Pa-Ce-Ka-We on their sticks and fling it over the opponent's goal line; doing so scores one point. The game may be played for time or for a set number of points. Play is begun and restarted after every point by tossing the Pop-Pa-Ce-Ka-We up between two opposing players in the center of the playing area. Players are not to run with the Pop-Pa-Ce-Ka-We. It is not to be batted but thrown or flung.

Utmost caution should be taken to have the players' sticks smoother from top to bottom and to avoid any small protrusions from twigs or branches. The end of the stick should not be pointed; in fact it would be well to pad it. While the ball should be firmly sewed to keep its round shape, it should by no means be hard. Gunny sacks wadded into shape of a ball are very useable.

With the Indians the playing field for Pop-Pa-Ce-Ka-We was unlimited; often tribe played against tribe. Pop-Pa-Ce-Ka-We should not be played on small playing areas where there is danger of the Pop-Pa-Ce-Ka-We flying into sandbox, apparatus or playing groups. Since our festival arenas are necessarily small, the playing of Pop-Pa-Ce-Ka-We should be regarded more as a demonstration of the game than an actual spirited playing of it. The festival teams should be limited to six or less members, according to the size of the playing field. These teams should be carefully coached and impressed with the fact that their playing should not be too strenuous on the evening of the festival.

Since the combative contests described are all played by two contestants, it would add much to the interest to have many groups of two scattered all over the arena instead of having a limited amount of playing done in the center of the field. Scattered groups would bring the activity nearer to the audience and give the playing field an interesting appearance of activity.

Chief White Feather tells a most interesting Indian legend about the origin of the relay race. Many, many years ago the earth was inhabited by the following classes of creatures: man, animal, fish and bird. One day, a beautiful Princess came to earth. She desired a mate. The rivalry among the creatures of earth was very tense, so the Princess decided to stage a race and take its winner

as her companion. The turtle wanted much to be the one selected, but realized that he had no chance whatever on account of his lack of endurance. After much brooding, he schemed the following plan: he went to the bottom of the lake and rounded up four turtles like himself in size. He placed the first turtle under the leaves and grass a certain distance from the starting line; farther down the line he had another turtle and in this fashion he divided the course of the run among the four turtles. When the race was called, the turtle started off with the rest; as he crawled under the leaves concealing the first turtle, the hidden turtle ran to release the next hidden turtle, and so on. The legend does not tell whether or not the turtle won the Princess, but it did give the Indians the foundation for many interesting relay races, one of which is the Gee-Gee-Bakkum-Magee.

**Gee-Gee-Bakkum-Magee (Going in and emerging from ground).** Gee-Gee-Bakkum-Magee is a relay based on the Indians' methods of transportation. There are five members on a team, the starter being called the Geebakkum. The Geebakkum stands on the starting line; player number two places himself on the ground face downward, supporting his body on his arms ready for a wheelbarrow race. (Because of the pebbly nature of the playground surface, this wheelbarrow player should be given a block of wood for each hand on which to "walk.") Number three stands in front of number two in a high leap-frog position. Number four lies flat on his stomach facing the goal line with a stout branch six feet long lying on each side under his arm. Number five stands in ordinary position. At the signal "go," Geebakkum (the starter) runs to Number two, grabs his ankles and wheelbarrows him down the course to Number three, Number two then jumps on the back of Number three, who carries him "Pick Aback" down the course to Number four; here Number three mounts the sticks lying along the side of Number four by putting a foot and a hand on each stick without allowing any part of his body to touch the sticks or the ground. As soon as Number 3 is mounted, Number four jumps up and pulls the sticks down the course according to the old Indian method of transportation. On reaching player Number five, the rider jumps from the sticks; the "horse" (player Number four), turns them over to Number five who carries them over the goal line.

(Continued on page 278)



# When Sally in Our Alley Goes to Summer Camp

By MARY E. DOLAN

St. Louis, Missouri

**N**O SWANKY CAMP in the North Woods can possibly give as much anticipated joy as does

"Camp Skullbone in the Woods," only thirty-five miles southwest of St. Louis, a summer camp for the underprivileged children of that city conducted by the Neighborhood Association Settlement House. For weeks the children talk of nothing but the swimming pool, the farms, the hikes at camp, and plague their teachers at Neighborhood Association for a list of clothes to bring.

At Camp Skullbone, children who day after day see only a brick wall from their bedroom windows and hear only jazz from nearby dance halls, awake to the whistling of a redbird and fall asleep to the tune of an Italian aria sung by an opera singer. "Children love music," said Miss Gladys Gross, singing instructor and director of Camp Skullbone, "and at night they beg me to sing them such lullabies as 'Mighty Lak a Rose.'"

Organized for the benefit of children of meager means, the camp offers a week's outing in the country for a nominal sum. Those who cannot afford more pay but twenty-five cents; the maximum charge is \$2.50. The children are for the most part from tenement districts, but the activities of Neighborhood Association have developed such healthy self-assurance in them that no casual observer would suspect their home surroundings. These

children at Camp Skullbone receive the advantages of such a camp as children of wealthy homes enjoy.

At different times certain age groups spend a week at the camp, which open-

ed last season on June 25th with eight girls of fourteen to sixteen years enrolled. The second week

saw an increase in enthusiasm and the number jumped to twenty-eight of the twelve to fourteen age group, although a few little sisters also attended. From August to September the boys of the Neighborhood Association visit the camp under the direction of men instructors.

The natural setting of the camp is ideal. Located on a private road, Camp Skullbone escapes curiosity seekers and vagrants of the main highway as well as its noise and distraction. Cedar trees galore form a natural parasol over the grounds which are just rugged enough to be interesting. At the foot of the hill is a stone spring house decorated with the totem pole of the lodge. Near by in a shaded corner stands a rustic table and bench for picnic suppers, while at the top of the hill is a roomy open air lodge with sleeping quarters for children and instructors. Along the front of the lodge is a wide porch with pine chairs cushioned with cretonne. The living room has stone fireplaces at each end and shiny lamps hung from the rafters. At the rear is the kitchen with rows of gleaming kettles suspended from the ceiling and, lining the walls, shelves stocked with bacon, pineapple and other goodies. Spring water

pipied to the camp and pumped into a reservoir

tower back of the lodge assures a plentiful supply for drinking and bathing.

Camp Skullbone is organized on a threefold program—recreational, educational or cultural, and character building.

Compact little cabins make this California camp thoroughly cozy and comfortable



The recreational facilities are plentiful in this forty acre tract where trails invite for hikes.

There is a steep straight-away trail to the lodge, popular when the dinner gong rings, and a round-about trail to the lodge for more leisurely walking. "We always hike with a purpose," Miss Gross explained, "to visit the neighboring farmhouse where we get the eggs and milk, or to a near by store to purchase marshmallows. Swimming is by far the chief attraction of the camp. Some of the children have never been in the water

before, but nearly all are swimming by the end of the week." The pool is a close approach to the "old swimmin' hole," with a concrete dam across Skullbone Creek forming a natural reservoir about three feet deep where the children splash at will without danger. In the afternoon they are given formal instruction in swimming.

On Thursday, which is visiting day for the mothers, mothers both stout and thin and arrayed in a variety of improvised suits, splash with the children, and at the end of the week a swimming carnival is held. Another recreational event is the mock track meet with all sorts of hopping, running and jumping relays. For the amusement of the mothers the children give a tumbling exhibition, when they display the pyramid building and handsprings they have learned.

#### Educational and Cultural Opportunities

Nor is the educational and cultural training of the children neglected. This phase is stressed by the teaching of table manners, personal cleanliness and good fellowship. Miss Gross displayed a large crate of books she had brought along for the children's reading which included nature study volumes and stories of adventure and the out-of-doors, such as those of Zane Grey. "I never attempt to teach health rules directly," she said, "but by asking Miss Worley, my assistant, a question about how she cares for her teeth I interest



*Courtesy Girl Scouts*

With so many things to do at camp the days are never quite long enough

the children until the first thing you know they are asking what tooth powder to use and what shape tooth brush. When Miss Worley dissected a frog for them they learned not only the anatomy of a batrachian but indirectly the care of the eyes, the skin, and other health rules."

In the matter of nature study the children are taught to protect plant and animal life.

Throughout the grounds are posted signs announcing, "We love our trees, shrubs, flowers, rocks, streams, lodge, and wild life," and asking all passers by to be respectful of the property. Sometimes the instruction is more formal, when specialists in the fields of health, social work and citizenship talk to the children.

Camp Skullbone tends to develop character by its emphasis on self-reliance as well as on cooperation. There is much free time for pursuing the child's own interests. By giving each child certain chores to perform, he learns the art of team work and its value. "Of all the tasks from getting wood for the stove, disposing of garbage, cleaning and filling lamps, to helping prepare meals, scrubbing floors, dusting furniture and waiting on tables," said Miss Gross, "washing dishes is the least popular. But there is no such thing as a discipline problem at Camp Skullbone. The mothers are anxious, almost too anxious, that their children toe the mark. There are few rules and hence little inducement to break them."

The freedom of the place breeds a good will between child and director. Beginning with taps on the bugle at seven in the morning, an early swim precedes breakfast. The free time, hike or ball game leads to lunch hour at twelve. After an hour's rest there are swimming lessons, games and supper. Then a retreat or song hour follows, with

*(Continued on page 278)*

## With the Civilian Conservation Corps

A REPORT OUTLINING the major items of work accomplished by the Civilian Conservation Corps during the period from April 17, 1933, when the first camp was established, to April 1, 1935, shows all reforestation and conservation work completed on 59 different types of projects ranging from tree planting to the construction of truck trails through forest areas.

Chief among the items having to do with recreational facilities were the improvement of 27,000 acres of public camp grounds and of 116,000 acres of lakes, ponds and beaches, and the construction of 3,336 ponds for fish and birds and of 1,159 recreational dams.

The report, which was released on July 7, 1935, states:

"The improvement of our national and state parks, as well as the development of new recreational facilities in other timbered areas, has been stressed. The national parks and monuments have been given better protection from fires, diseases and insects. Due to the stimulus of the CCC program, the states have added more than 500,000 acres to their state parks. Thousands of acres of park land have been cleared for public camp grounds; new camp buildings have been erected; public camp ground water systems have been installed; simple camp grounds have been developed in national and state forests. These have been equipped with pure drinking water, rustic fireplaces and rest rooms.

"The development work has greatly increased the recreational values of our public forests and parks. The Forest Service and National Park Service anticipate that more than 40,000,000 persons will visit the national parks and forests this year."

The report lists other principal work programs completed which have been largely directed toward the improvement and protection of our national resources, particularly forests and parks, and the prevention of destructive soil erosion. These items make an imposing total.

Robert Fechner, Director of the Emergency Conservation Work, states in his report that the Department of Agriculture, the Department of the Interior and the Department of War estimate the present value of the work completed by April 1,

*(Continued on page 278)*

## Youth Versus Society

ON APRIL 30th, May 1st and May 2nd, at three sessions held under the sponsorship of the Council of Social Agencies of the Oranges and Maplewood, New Jersey, Youth indicted Society for indifference to and ignorance of the problems of youth in respect to employment, marriage, friendship, moral code, leisure and health. Honorable Daniel J. Brennan of the Essex County Court of Appeals presided. There were a defense counsel and six members of the prosecuting staff who took part in the trial. Many witnesses were called—local ministers, physicians, educators, representatives of local organizations of many kinds, juvenile court judges, health officers and other officials. These witnesses were cross-examined with great earnestness, and there was evidence on the part of the young people of a very serious desire to make their needs and point of view known, to find out more about the social environment in which they are living, and to do everything possible to bring about better conditions for themselves and their confreres.

After due deliberation the jury found Society guilty as charged on the following counts:

1. Allowing employment at starvation wages
2. Inadequate instruction on the subject of choosing a mate
3. Allowing conditions to exist under which young people are unable to marry due to lack of employment
4. Allowing the continued and flourishing existence of pitfalls for youth such as obscene literature, saloons and gambling devices
5. Harsh attitude towards those with a criminal or police record
6. Incomplete use of public buildings, schools, churches, etc., for leisure time

Society was cleared on eight of the counts obtained in the indictment. These were:

1. Inadequate employment service
2. Inadequate preparation in schools for any form of employment
3. Allowing racial and national prejudice to interfere with employment
4. Lack of cooperation among existing young people's organizations and agencies
5. Appalling inadequacy of facilities for youth activities
6. Failure to attempt serious moral education in the home, school and church
7. Failure of educational system to instruct in the proper use of leisure time
8. Lack of facilities for the use of leisure time

The jury reported a disagreement on the question of inadequate sex education and decided that

*(Continued on page 278)*



# WORLD AT PLAY

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## Newburgh Children Go Into Action

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CHILDREN of Newburgh, New York, revealed an amazingly shrewd concept of popular democratic government, when on April 29th, 64 boys and girls from the South End made a surprise attack on the City Council, and with the help of two adult spokesmen, demanded a playground in their neighborhood. "This is getting a new note in council meetings," said Mayor Brown in welcoming the group. The children's spokesmen were immediately given an audience and after a hasty conference one of the councilmen moved that the request be referred to the City Manager and that he confer with the head of the Recreation Commission to see what could be done. On May 6th, just seven days later, the Council appropriated \$200 to clear a vacant lot which the Ramsdell Estate made available provided the city would take responsibility for the project.

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## Summer Events at Oglebay Park

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EVERY Sunday afternoon during the summer, from 3:30 to 5:00 o'clock, residents of Wheeling, West Virginia, and their friends may enjoy popular concerts at Oglebay Park by the Garden Symphonette. Another feature of the summer season is a series of six nationality night dinners. On June 5th there was an English garden party with appropriate music from England, Ireland and Scotland, and a number of dances including the Irish jig and Highland fling. The dinner which was served conformed to the character of the party.

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## A Baseball Benefit

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A suggestion comes from Philadelphia, where John V. Smith of the Bureau of Recreation was able to persuade the management of two professional baseball leagues—the American and the National—to agree to put

on a benefit for the purchase of baseball equipment for the Bureau's baseball tournament. The game was run in the old-fashioned way, the bat being tossed hand over hand for first choice and the players being chosen indiscriminately from either league. Everyone had a most enjoyable time, and the teams have agreed to make it an annual custom.

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## A City's Activities for Shut-ins

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THE Allentown, Pennsylvania, Recreation Commission has a project for shut-ins with some particularly interesting features. The Commission conducts a broadcast two nights a week. One of the broadcasts is designed especially for the residents of three homes for the aged and resembles the well known "Cheerio" hour when birthdays are remembered and congratulations offered over the air. In addition, the Recreation Commission has a birthday book containing the birthday date of every inmate of the institutions for the aged and birthday greeting cards are sent them. Good used and new neckties are collected and given the men and good discarded beads are gathered for the women so that they may attend social hours "dressed up."

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## New York Goes a-Dancing

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IN June the program of dancing on Central Park's Mall in New York City was officially opened under the auspices of the Park Department, James V. Mulholland, Supervisor of Recreation. Fifteen minutes after the dancing started 1,000 couples peopled the Mall while the throng of watchers grew rapidly filling the benches and overflowing to the grassy slopes around. At a quarter to ten the dancing couples had increased to 1,500, and the watchers were estimated at 10,000. The Prospect Park, Brooklyn, season opened at the same time with 500 people dancing in the picnic house while 1,000 more clamored for admittance.

**Training Leaders for Adult Recreation—**Some years ago a group of playground directors on the staff of the Berkeley, California, Recreation Department who were interested in social recreation, organized themselves into the Recreational Sextette. Their purpose was to increase their own general knowledge of social recreation leadership and to aid leaders of private groups interested in conducting social recreation. Recently the sextette completed their second annual adult recreation institute held for six consecutive Monday evenings with an average attendance of ninety per evening. A charge of 10 cents an evening or 50 cents for the entire course was made to defray expenses. For this fee over 250 different people received two hours of instruction and a mimeographed bulletin presenting the evening's activities. The subjects included progressive game parties, hobbies and handcraft, music and dramatics, dancing, quiet games and parties for large groups. Copies of the bulletins outlining the material may be secured for 50 cents a set or 10 cents a copy from the Recreational Sextette, Recreation Department, Berkeley, California.

**Recreation and Juvenile Delinquency—**Some time ago the Mayor of Wilkes Barre, Pennsylvania, referred to the Playground and Recreation Association of Wyoming Valley a group of boys from the Juvenile Court. This group, now numbering over one hundred, has grown into a very strong neighborhood boys' club which under leadership has developed a strip of coal land leased for a dollar a year. Clubs of this character are among the most interesting developments in Wilkes Barre. There are seven of them ranging in membership from 80 to 200. The clubs are self-sustaining, and one of them has made a club house out of an old house. This particular group conducts many athletic activities. They have put in teams in all the city leagues and have been a very salutary influence in lowering delinquency among the youth.

**State Parks Open for Recreation—**The State of Michigan on May 30th opened 53 state parks for recreational uses. Each year the popularity of Michigan's parks, of which there are now 73, has grown to the point where the annual attendance now exceeds 9,000,000 people. The

parks furnish an opportunity for the public to enjoy fishing, bathing, camping, and picnicking at a minimum of expense. Camping permits for a week or longer in all of the parks may be secured without charge.

**A Mountain Recreation Center—**The Los Angeles, California, Playground and Recreation Department plans to reopen Camp Radburn of the San Bernardino Mountains as a recreation center for the use of organized groups. For the past three years the camp has been serving successively as a forest labor camp, a CCC barracks, and transient boys' unit. Under the new plan, the camp facilities will become available for the use of organizations that wish to use the entire camp for their outings, with the cabins, recreation lodge, kitchens, dining hall, swimming pool and other features to be rented out at low nominal rates varying from 50 cents per person for 50 people or less down to 30 cents per person for groups of 100 people or more.

**Rhythm Bands in Jacksonville—**In April the Jacksonville, Florida, Department of Recreation held its second rhythm band demonstration to show in how many different ways rhythm bands may be used. Five hundred children from twelve grammar schools took part in colorful attire, equipped with such instruments as tambourines, triangles, drums, jingle clogs, castanets, bells, rumba gourds, and other percussion instruments. Each band was directed by a six or seven year old leader. The final feature of the program was a rendition of Haydn's "Toy Symphony" by an especially trained group of forty soprano voices and a number of toy symphony instruments.

**The "Old Order Changeth" —**More than 1,600 women in Detroit, Michigan, demonstrated the fact that the "old order changeth" in a huge pageant of that title presented on April 11th at the Olympia. The presentation brought to a close for the season the Recreation Department's work in gymnasium and dancing classes. It showed the contrast in recreational activities of ancient, medieval and modern times. Miss Lottie A. McDermott of the Recreation Department's staff was in charge of the program.

**Des Moines' Closing Playground Festival—**

Last summer the playground season in Des Moines, Iowa, culminated in a playground festival held at Drake Stadium. The program, which was a demonstration of the activities of the playgrounds, opened with a half hour concert by the 327 piece playground band. This was followed by the presentation of the activities on a single playground by representatives from each of the 21 playgrounds. These covered tennis, baseball, hand tennis, volley ball, nature activities, story-telling and handcraft. Community singing was part of the program.

**A Religious Festival—**

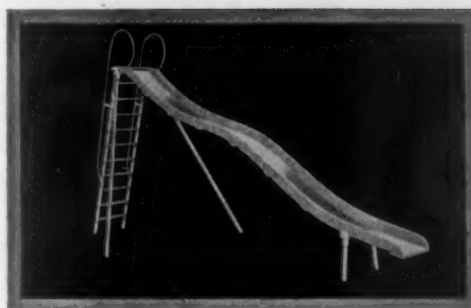
A religious festival held in Lansing, Michigan, May 8th and 9th, under the sponsorship of the Recreation Department of the Board of Cemetery and Public Parks Commissioners was the outgrowth of the drama contest previously held. The results were more than gratifying from a dramatic and educational point of view, and the festival did much to promote good fellowship among the churches. The colored group known as the Paul Robeson Club presented an excellent missionary play made more effective by some beautiful singing; the Catholic Church presented a play by eighth grade girls. In all eighteen groups presented plays in the two programs.

**A Song Festival for Colored Choirs —**

On June 20th Council Group No. 1 of the Central Avenue Community Center in Newark, New Jersey, presented the fifth annual song festival for choirs representing the colored churches of Newark. Eleven church choirs took part. In addition to the songs by individual choirs, there was mass singing by all the choruses directed by the Assistant Superintendent of Schools. This festival has come to be an important event in the program of the Newark community centers, and each year it is looked forward to with great interest.

**San Francisco Children Broadcast—**

On July 12th the Recreation Commission of San Francisco, California, embarked on an innovation in the radio program presented by the Commission in cooperation with NBC, when an amateur hour similar to the one presented every Sunday afternoon over a national hook-up was initiated.



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**Recreation Budget Increases—**The two-mill tax in Charlotte, North Carolina, which was reduced to one mill during the early stages of the depression period, was restored to the Recreation Board on July 1st.

**Gardening in Detroit—**Nearly 200 boys and girls of the Fordson High School and several junior high schools in May began the practical part of their course in home gardening and horticulture in a laboratory consisting of a thirteen acre plot the use of which was given by Henry Ford. All winter the classes studied the principles of horticulture. Miniature gardens were planted in the school conservatory, and each student was taught how a garden should be laid out, both for beautification of the home as well as proper utilization of the ground. Each pupil will take care of his garden through the summer months and will receive scholastic credits for the course.

**Hamilton's Sport Week—**From May 18th to 25th, Hamilton, Canada, enjoyed an intensive week of play each day of which was filled with





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sports and games of various kinds. On the opening day a boys' fishing contest was held for boys between ten and fourteen years of age. Baseball contests, a community street dance, soccer, lacrosse, tug of war, bowling, horseshoe pitching and a great variety of other activities made up the program. Bicycle races were run for the entire week, and there was a program of roller skating conducted in all sections of the city.

**A Recreation Department for Wauwatosa—**Wauwatosa, Wisconsin, a community of 25,000 people, recently voted 4,117 to 2,994 in favor of a recreation department under the Wisconsin law. The summer playground program will continue as before, and the budget from the new tax levy will be made available on January 1, 1936. By this time the two-mill tax producing approximating \$6,000 will provide for the employment of a full time superintendent of recreation.

**A New Playground in New York—**A playground and a one story service building with

dressing rooms will be constructed on property recently acquired by John D. Rockefeller, Jr., from St. Luke's Hospital. The property will be developed in harmony with other buildings on that block, including the Riverside Church of which Harry Emerson Fosdick is pastor and the adjacent edifices of the Union Theological Seminary. The new building will be of stone and concrete with a base 73 by 25 8/10 feet. It will be designed by the architect planning the new cloister museum which Mr. Rockefeller is building in Fort Tryon Park for the Metropolitan Museum of Art. The plans have been filed by the Riverside Church as owner. The cost of the improvement is estimated by the organization at \$45,000.

**Day Camps in Pittsburgh—**The City Council of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, has appropriated \$10,000 for day camp activities in the city parks for undernourished children. The camp at Schenley Park, previously under the direction of the Federation of Social Agencies, this year will be under the jurisdiction of the Bureau of Recreation.

**Oakland's Recreation Week—**In May, Oakland, California, celebrated Recreation Week—a week of open house on the playgrounds, of baseball, track sports, boating, golf, community theater and many other activities. The junior chamber of commerce, the forum, service clubs and many other organizations gave their support to this highly successful effort to interest the public in the recreation program and give the citizens of Oakland definite information about the facilities available. Writing editorially of the week, the Tribune-Sun says: "We start tomorrow demonstrating our zeal and enthusiasm, our equipment and program. We show the place of clean sportsmanship in the community life and that in supplying it for the development of young character and for its addition to civic health and happiness, we are fulfilling a definite obligation."

**What's Your Hobby?—**Milwaukee, Wisconsin, has a Hobby Clubs Council organized to stimulate interest in wholesome recreational, educational and handcraft hobbies. In its publicity bulletin it lists seventeen groups of people who are pursuing hobbies of various kinds, including sketching, collecting, hiking, boat



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building, chess, and other interests. The bulletin gives the name of the individual in each group to whom anyone interested may apply.

**Speedway Races** — The Salvation Army of San Francisco, California, met with success in conducting speedway races in which pushmobiles, scooters, coasters, skipmobiles and chariots were featured. Over three hundred boys and girls participated in the event which, it is estimated, cost only \$15. The awards were made at an evening's program at which the band supplied musical numbers and boys and girls who did not take part in the races put on a special entertainment.

**A Course in Nautical Affairs** — A novel course offered this spring by the Los Angeles, California, Playground and Recreation Department was one designed to impart nautical instruction to amateur skippers of sailing craft. Beginning April 4th eight sessions were held at the Los Angeles swimming stadium auditorium. Outstanding experts, among them naval architects, gave lectures on boat building, nomenclature, sailing tactics, and similar matters.

**The Plight of Youth** — The annual report of the Division of Child Care of the Catholic Charities of the New York Archdiocese estimates that 7,400,000 boys and girls are growing up in homes supported by public relief allowances and that of 6,000,000 who have left schools and colleges since 1929 less than one-third have found employment. The report points out that "the ruinous depression at the outset struck at the security of our children with bewildering force, and the numberless forms of individual breakdown followed in rapid succession." The report warns that one of the most lasting effects of the depression will be the adverse one of enforced idleness upon the morale of the youth of today.

**The New Haven Hobby Show** — From May 13th to 19th the League of Women Voters of New Haven, Connecticut, held a hobby show at the Timothy Dwight House in which some unusually interesting articles were shown under the general classifications of nature craft, music, dramatic art, science, fine arts, gardening, handcraft and collecting. The schools entered wholeheartedly into the project, and pre-

liminary private exhibits by the pupils were held from which the most interesting entries were selected to be shown at the hobby show. Among these were a collection of 5,000 lead soldiers from all over the world and a miniature circus which a high school boy had spent nine years in building and assembling.

In addition to the exhibits, there were daily demonstrations of various kinds, one of the most interesting of which was a hobby theater where movies were shown and where each evening a talk on a different phase of the moving picture industry was given.

**Tour Conducting As a Form of Recreation Leadership**—The Chicago, Illinois, Recreation Commission has issued for the benefit of the thousands of people who are obliged to stay in town during the summer an illustrated booklet, "Recreation in Chicago," depicting an array of places to go and things to do in the home town. To facilitate the use and enjoyment of Chicago's attractions, classes in tour conducting are being arranged by the Emergency Educational Program in conjunction with the Recreation Commission. The classes, which meet weekly, are in the art and practice of tour conducting, and the two hour classes in "How to Conduct Tours" will alternate with illustrative tours under the leadership of the teacher of the classes. Supplied with the booklets published by the Commission, including a map showing the places mentioned, members of the classes will be able to take their friends and neighbors on tours that will introduce Chicagoans to Chicago.

## A Few of America's Outdoor Theaters

(Continued from page 236)

the wooded aspect. Evergreens and shrubs will be added as the planting plan progresses, for a project of this magnitude cannot be completed in one season. Fall is eagerly awaited so that the transplanting can be continued. Nature has done its share in helping, and even the grass seems willing to do its part in covering the raw ground with its green velvet.

Back stage planting will provide adequate screening of the actors and their paraphernalia. Plenty of space for thousands of motor cars has been provided. This part of the planning appears to have been unusually well thought out.

There is no question as to the usefulness of the amphitheater. It was not merely a whim con-

ceived by the energetic far-seeing park superintendent, Donald Gordon, but the response to a need for some such stadium or auditorium voiced by school groups, churches, and especially the Chamber of Commerce who felt such a project to be an investment and not an expense.

Fortunately expenditures have been modest. Within the area of Lincoln Park where the amphitheater has been built all the native stone needed has been quarried. Like many other communities Oklahoma City has had large numbers of men on the relief rolls. Projects such as this have given the citizens permanent improvement to last for years to come, and will serve as a satisfactory answer to the alleged wastefulness of depression spending.

The park system of Oklahoma City has utilized all classes of relief labor, one service being to accommodate large numbers of transients when the city was swamped with them and the Transient Bureau hard put to provide an outlet. The splendid cooperation which exists between the county, state and federal units accounts in large measure for the progress made.

The Board of Park Commissioners has been alert to the opportunities and needs of the times. Its members have been vital factors in bringing their park system forward to an enviable position throughout the Southwest.

## Planning the Summer Vacation

(Continued from page 244)

view, the Ann Arbor schools have introduced in the division of social studies a unit on the summer vacation. The following are some of the methods that are being considered in order to develop an intelligent interest and participation in a wide range of summer activities:

1. Have the children write compositions on good times in summer at camps, trips, farms and playgrounds and have the best of them read and discussed to bring out essential values.
2. Give out available lists of camps of all types and expenses.
3. Have a consultation period to discuss with parents and children summer plans.
4. Get up and distribute a directory of points of interest in the area suitable for trips and outings.
5. Encourage the formation of Scout and camp fire groups.
6. Find out what children might spend the vacation or a part of it on a farm.



7. Give out a list of playgrounds and swimming facilities.

8. Send home a mimeographed list of summer suggestions to parents.

9. Encourage home economic girls to take charge of the cooking at home and industrial arts boys to fix up about the house.

10. Put on moving picture programs of an educational nature once or twice a week.

It seems not unlikely that such a program may increase the days given to the four activities studied from 12.1 to 15 or 20 for the summer without its costing the city anything and that the points of view developed may be of service all through life.

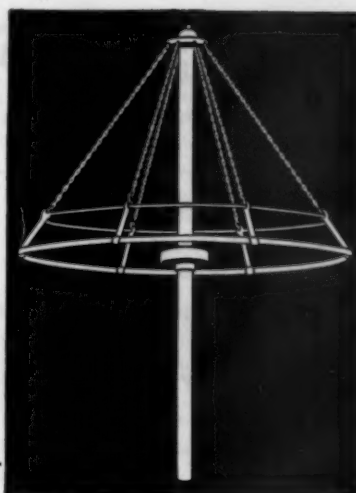
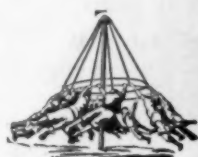
### Chicago Pioneers on New Frontiers

(Continued from page 247)

standards and more perfect mastery of the subject there will ultimately come a great renaissance of art, this production furnished such a proof. In fact, it afforded a demonstration that such an art renaissance is actually in our midst, and under way. The music of this occasion, the drama, and the dance, were all most creditable.

Development of the music program is similarly moving in the direction of helping people to do things for themselves. Development of the athletic program is marching in the direction of enlisting community sponsorship through organization of athletic associations in each of the park centers, and out in the communities themselves many of the events which heretofore we have ourselves undertaken and carried through are now being turned over to citizen groups as their own. Last year's Hallowe'en observance was largely sponsored by the business men's organizations in a number of our communities where once we ourselves put on the Hallowe'en program. This movement toward community sponsorship has led us to question whether, as part of our service to the recreation needs of a community, we should not actually include in our thinking provision for service to that leisure demand that one be of service to his fellows, affording opportunity for that spirit of service to exercise itself, just as we provide opportunity for the desire to play baseball to exercise itself.

It has required courage to break away from tradition and institute new patterns of community service, just as it has required courage to appropriate a sufficient departmental budget. Charges of "boondoggling" have been made, and accusations of extravagance have been voiced. Only an



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## Magazines and Pamphlets

( Recently Received Containing Articles  
of Interest to the Recreation Worker )

### MAGAZINES

- The Parents' Magazine*, July 1935  
Youth Follows New Trails, by G. G. Telfer
- The National Parent-Teacher Magazine*, July 1935  
An Educational Use of Leisure—An Editorial, by Daniel L. Marsh  
Your Second Spring, by Anne Frances Hodgkins
- Public Management*, July 1935  
Municipal Recreation for the New Leisure, by Weaver W. Pangburn
- Hygeia*, July 1935  
Recreation for Convalescent Children, by Sophia Potgieter
- The Farm Journal*, July 1935  
Make 'Em and Sell 'Em, by Charlotte Miller Temple  
Pointers on 1935 Picnics, by Nellie Ryder Gates

### PAMPHLETS

- Annual Report of the Memorial Community Building, Goldsboro, N. C., 1934*
- First Annual Report of the Department of Public Recreation, Winston-Salem, N. C., 1934-1935*
- City of Calgary, Canada, Parks Department Annual Report, 1933*

administration firmly convinced of the need and value of the program could have faced these charges with serenity, and only the clarity of business judgment and confidence of executive control of a thoroughly businesslike administration could have dared go so far, feeling assured that it would know where to draw the line and go no further in public expenditure.

The Congress of this year is invited to Chicago to inspect for itself these developments, and to meet the business man now devoting himself exclusively to public service, under whose administration one of the largest park organizations in America is breaking new trails and writing a new page in the history of recreation service in Chicago. It is writing that page in the light of a fine tradition of public service over the years, because of a plant adapted to new forms of pioneering, because it is necessarily in a period of transition in adapting to the recent consolidation, but also because, sitting on the Board of Commissioners are men who believe in service as the end and justification of any park expenditure, and in the executive chair as chief administrator sits George Donoghue, the General Superintendent, sensitive

to every consideration of public use and enjoyment of park properties, active of imagination in devising better modes and forms of responding to the human needs of the times, experienced in years of park administration where recreation was the underlying purpose, and himself an enthusiastic supporter of everything which makes for public enjoyment—from athletics, in which he is nationally known as President of the Central A. A. U., to landscape, architectural and mural art, and to engineering in its social, no less than in its material, implications. He attacks, with the same infectious enthusiasm, the problems of shore protection in combatting Lake Michigan's storms, and the problems of a boys' group wrestling with television, or with a wind tunnel for testing their model planes.

Leadership as dynamic as is now at the helm in the Chicago Park system makes of that system a laboratory in which earnest thought is put to practical test. The invitation of the city, extended to thinkers and workers in the field of recreation, is that they come to this year's Congress with their problems, and their hopes, that we may avail ourselves of criticism and suggestion, of new ideas and late experiences throughout the nation, to make this laboratory serve not only its local purposes, but also the recreation movement as a whole, in its evolving.

## Oklahoma City's Weekly Community Programs

(Continued from page 248)

which may be shifted from place to place as needed. The public address systems, which are also of the movable type, are donated by various business firms.

Securing nine pianos for use at the major playgrounds, which are moved to minor playgrounds on occasion, required some diplomacy. A willing and enthusiastic group of park patrons organized under the name of Playground Recreation Council was given \$225 by the Park Department with which to secure the pianos. At first the idea of obtaining a piano for \$25 was rather baffling but before long the committee appointed to work on the program had found enough piano owners who wanted to sell for \$25 to supply the need. Repeated hauling of the pianos from one park to another required the building of heavy braces and handles for the pianos. The moving is now done so expertly that even after repeated moving the pianos do not get out of tune.

Each week's program has a special theme which is carried out in the playground handcraft rooms and on the community night programs. For instance, there is Sports Week when the week's activities in handcraft are centered upon making games and equipment for sports of various kinds. The activities culminate in city-wide tournaments and the community programs are filled with sport songs and dances. Doll Week is another example. In their handcraft groups the children make dolls and dresses which are displayed during the community program when nursery rhymes and songs and dances of the parade of the wooden soldier type are featured.

### Nation-Wide Recreation

(Continued from page 252)

tivities back on the parents and the home. It was observed that there was a heightened morale in the home, a better understanding and cooperation between parents and children, and a marked pick-up in the cultural interests of the parents. Obviously the constructive recreation spirit learned by the child at play is brought back home.

These surveys, while not strictly recreation service projects themselves, are mentioned here to give an idea of the scope and seriousness of the recreation problem in America as envisaged by FERA. Also they are offered as evidence of the Relief Administration's willingness to cooperate with all agencies in an effort to set up a comprehensive and sound recreation program.

### Art Projects

No review of recreation service projects would be complete without mentioning those devoted to the arts. Here it was not only a matter of giving necessary employment to a particular class of needy, or of providing a recreational service, but more than that, these projects were created to carry on the art-cultural life of this country through a critical period. Their success is evident on every hand. The walls of our public buildings, schools, state institutions, are decorated or hung with pictures that have stimulated native American art to new heights. With over twenty-five hundred professional actors in their casts, the drama projects have presented the popular and classical stage to audiences of unemployed numbering hundreds of thousands. More than 9,500 musicians and music teachers made destitute, have been put to work for the benefit of the public. They are again teaching, or they are incorporated in one of the 150 orchestras, ensembles, or the



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Games—Sports, Hobbies—Collections, Books, Photography . . . Creative Arts, Puzzles, Dramatics, Travel, Music, Hand Crafts, Nature Study, and many other activities.



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Read what outstanding Recreation Directors, Educators, and Civic Leaders say about LEISURE:

"After looking over the sample copy of LEISURE recently sent this office, I wish to place our order for two annual subscriptions to the magazine. I believe it will be a 'gold mine' of program material for use with our groups." R. W. Robertson, Recreation Dept., Oakland, Calif.

"LEISURE is a distinct contribution to the still pioneer American which has come to a new frontier of life—Leisure Time." Howard L. White, Director of Recreation, Heckscher Foundation for Children.

"A magazine like yours can do much to save our young people from finding unwholesome outlets for their surplus energies by putting before them in attractive and authoritative form the many fields of activities which will satisfy their cravings for adventure, for creation, for co-operation, and for leadership." Ernest Hermann, Dean, Sargent School of Physical Education.

"We have enjoyed the magazine very much and feel that it is of value in programs such as ours." Louise Goodyear, Girl Scout Peace House, Buffalo, N. Y.

"Your magazine has been recommended to me by the State Department of Education." F. A. Bell, Supt., Amador County Schools, Cal.

"A copy of LEISURE in every home would be a Godsend to folks who have never before had the time for recreation, nor the education for its use." R. A. Hoyer, Director, Dept. of Boy Guidance, Graduate School, Notre Dame University.

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This but touches on some of the high spots of the recreation service projects. One could go on at great length dwelling on others of equal importance. It is impossible to give a complete census of all of them. Equally impossible to give an exact census of the workers, the participants or the audiences. Many of the projects are seasonal; many change quickly to meet the changing demand. A number of them shift in and out of the various Emergency Relief Administrations, keeping pace with their ability to find local or private support. In 1934, as a result of the use of Emergency funds and leaders, 1,025 communities reported recreation services. This number does not include the existing local services which are supplemented by FERA funds.

## Enriched Programs for the Future

When the need for the national organization of work giving is over, it is hoped that various state, local, and private agencies will again take up their full responsibilities for the continuation of an adequate recreation program. They will inherit from the Federal Government a vastly expanded physical plant; a wealth of certain knowledge, gained through practical first-hand experience in the operation of recreation activities, and a stalwart legion of leaders well trained in every phase of public recreation service.

Also, as a part of their heritage from the Federal Government, they will find an advanced, more intelligent, appreciation of the value of constructive recreation on the part of the general public. Recreation, once thought of as idling and wasting time, has become a social necessity. It has become the *positive* refreshment and enrichment of mind and body. Its value in these terms cannot be overstated. It is not a curative for all our ills—our crimes, our economic maladjustment, our social problems—but it is a firm basis for social and individual reconstruction.

## The Dance in the Recreation Program

(Continued from page 255)

enjoyed. Programs of this type may be sponsored on playgrounds and at day and summer camps.

What Place Shall Dancing Have in  
Our Program?

Music leaders employed by recreation depart-

ments have devoted much of their time and energy to raising standards of instruction and instilling an appreciation of fine music within their groups. This has resulted in more worthwhile programs for both instructor and participants. There are, however, directors of recreation who feel that to take responsibility for the promotion of dancing is outside their field. Shall we as teachers develop dancing to its fullest extent or shall we be content to conduct it free of technique, carrying it on for its recreative values as we do with community singing? Will the recreation department fail to seize this opportunity for a program which offers a fertile field of development?

### A City Builds Teams from Gangs

(Continued from page 257)

part of the season and later shifted to the afternoon. Boys form a habit of late sleeping as vacation advances and the success of a schedule may depend upon even such a relatively minor point.

The *deus ex machina* of any program is the director—the good one who can start things by suggestion and demonstration, guide its progress and bring it to a successful conclusion. By example he can create personal pride in honest achievement and make the playground a vital place in leisure time education. There are too many sins, such as favoritism, poor officiating, disinterest and bad sportsmanship.

The final test of any program is its popularity. We checked impressions with seven of our best team and gang leaders as a matter of mutual advantage. We uncovered minor differences, some which have been mentioned already, but the unanimous opinion was to "retain the League by all means." Both players and directors are planning for that bigger and better third year of the Junior League.

### Westchester County's Recreation Camp

(Continued from page 259)

act, and then, in the cast, we need ten girls. We have some cheese-cloth left over from the play last week—enough for three costumes. Those of you who want to act or help finish the last act or make the costumes will find us under the big maple this morning." And "under the big maple" in a few minutes will be seen a group of perhaps twenty girls, intently enjoying the preparations for a theatrical production.

"Every boy and girl has the power of imagination," Mr. Cranford and his aides believe. "It needs only to be released. Given the opportunity,

### Partners in Play

- "This book is full of the most alluring recipes for dances, parties, stunts and picnics, and of kindly, tolerant and knowing comment," says Marjorie Barstow Greenbie in her book *The Arts of Leisure*.
- If you have not purchased your copy of this booklet describing the recreational activities which young men and young women can enjoy together, send for a copy immediately.

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the child discovers for himself his special aptitudes. Friendly competition between youngsters develops self-assurance and other traits that might remain latent in the narrow protection of the home or the busy discipline of the school room. The councilors, constantly on the alert to provide their charges with the most varied kind of experience, add to their own store of experience."

Such is the good standing of the camp from the viewpoint of the progressive educator that Teachers College of Columbia University will this year cooperate with the Westchester County Recreation Commission in conducting a training course at Croton for graduate students in camp leadership. Twelve young men and women, selected from more than one hundred applicants from many states will live at the camps this summer as student councilors, and will receive eight points of graduate credit for the course.

### Sioux City's New Amphitheater

(Continued from page 261)

a level stage for drama. Footlights are also included.

The building itself is inspirational in its beauty

and blends harmoniously with the setting. With it as an incentive the cultural tone of the city's recreational activities should mount. Leisure time spent there either as a spectator or a participant should be time spent with a definite gain for the individual citizen. Public meetings and community projects carried out in such harmonious surroundings will without doubt reflect its influence.

### Some Indian Games

(Continued from page 263)

NOTE: The player carried should weigh considerably less than the player who must carry him.

**Running the Gauntlet (A Sioux Indian Game).** The Indians form two rows of "Braves" side by side with arms outstretched. (The outstretching of the arms is to arrange the distance between the men. Arms are dropped to the sides as soon as this is completed.) The rows face each other about four or five feet apart. This alley between the two rows is the path to be traveled by the victim or the man who is "it."

The victim is run down through the two lines, the braves on each side being allowed to hit the victim with their war clubs. (Use beaters or cloth wrapped around newspapers for war clubs.) The victim sometimes wins the greatest respect from the braves because of his ability to "take it" and sometimes from his ability to swat the braves as they go down the gauntlet. This brave victim is sometimes made a member of their tribe. Sometimes the weaklings who could not "take it" were burned at the stake.

**Wela (A Hopi Game).** The Indians made hoops out of branches and rolled them between players who sat facing one another. As the hoops passed the players they shot arrows through them. Sometimes these hoops were smaller sized rings, from 7 to 10 inches in diameter, made out of dry corn husks tightly wrapped with cord. In place of arrows, darts were made of corn cobs with feathers stuck in the top of them. Each team has its turn, and as the hoop passes the players they attempt to throw their darts through the ring or hoop. Each successful throw counts one point. The team making the most number of points in ten rolls wins the game.

NOTE: For playground adaptation of this game, barrel hoops or rubber tires can be used.

### When Sally in Our Alley Goes to Summer Camp

(Continued from page 265)

stunts, and lights are out at ten o'clock—a busy

day but not a regimented one. The desire to do as the group does checks any tendency to clique on national lines that might develop among the children of German, Polish, Spanish, Italian, French, Irish, Russian, Greek and Albanian nationality that attend Camp Skullbone. An Indian powwow circle where Indian songs and dances are performed contributes to the Americanization influence. The camp is unaffiliated with any organized movement and is entirely free from religious or sectarian interests. It has an appeal for all religions and all nationalities, who can join freely in admiration of the American Indian.

The success of Camp Skullbone, established three years ago on a tract donated by Sam Plant, is indicated by the fact that last summer 1,600 children enjoyed a week each at the camp. The pleasure and education derived by these children are unlimited, and although many of the little tots are glad at the end of a week to climb into Camp Skullbone's yellow and black bus that takes them back to "Mom" again, they all look forward to another summer at camp.

### With the Civilian Conservation Corps

(Continued from page 266)

1935, by CCC personnel, at approximately \$428,000,000. The records show that the Department of Agriculture evaluates the work done under its supervision at \$350,000,000. The Department of the Interior places a value of \$71,000,000 on the CCC work carried on under its supervision. The value of the work completed under the direction of the War Department is estimated at \$7,000,000.

### Youth Versus Society

(Continued from page 266)

no evidence had been produced to substantiate the charge that futile treatment of young offenders is frequently colored by political consideration.

Judge Brennan passed sentence as follows:

"I sentence Society to one year of probation and remand it into the custody of General Probation Officer Joseph P. Murphy of Essex County for that period. And I limit the term to one year so that Youth may obtain a speedy remedy for the defects that it has so ably proven."

It was interesting to note that the findings of the recreation survey made by Eugene T. Lies of the staff of the National Recreation Association were widely used throughout the trial.



## New Publications in the Leisure Time Field

### Camp Dramatics

By Nina B. Lamkin. Samuel French, New York. \$.50.

**T**HIS booklet, with its discussion of the types of dramatics suitable for camp use and its suggested ceremonies, festivals and pageants, plays, Indian material, stunts, poems and programs of various kinds, should be exceedingly valuable to camp directors. The bibliography and lists of source material—and there are many—are complete and carefully selected.

### Activities in Girl Scout Camps

Girls Scouts, Inc., 570 Lexington Avenue, New York. \$.50.

**O**NE of the most attractive camp publications we have seen comes from Girl Scouts, Inc., where the Camp Advisory Staff and the Program Division have collected from individual camp reports material which they have felt would be of interest to camp directors and other leaders and have issued it in a mimeographed, profusely illustrated book which is noteworthy both from the point of view of content and appearance. The subject matter has to do with nature activities in camp, handicraft, music, camp fires and dramatics. Each section is accompanied by a bibliography and list of source material.

### Character Education in the Summer Camp III

Association Press, 347 Madison Avenue, New York. \$.75.

**T**HE report of the sixth annual camp institute held at George Williams College, Chicago, March 29-31, 1935, under the auspices of the Chicago Council of Social Agencies and George Williams College is incorporated in this booklet. A number of leaders in camping and allied fields have contributed to this practical booklet on setting standards in the summer camp, which is divided into three main parts: Setting Standards in the Summer Camp; Community Aspects of Camp Planning; Camping and the Camper.

### Let's Go Places

Prepared and issued by New York Adult Education Council, 366 Madison Avenue, New York City. \$.10.

**H**ERE is a list of things of varied interest to see and to do in and around New York, grouped under three classifications. The first is headed "Sightseeing Points in and Near Manhattan" and includes airports and steamship lines, botanical gardens, zoos, buildings, churches, commercial plants, museums, historic places and similar points of interest. Next comes "Outdoor Activities" with camping places, baseball games, swimming, golf, tennis,

boat trips, walks and hikes. Under "Miscellaneous" are listed concerts, free educational motion pictures, lectures, reading and similar interests. The bulletin should be of keen interest to those who as Dr. John H. Finley says in his foreword, "have chosen this as our city whether we come from foreign lands or from other parts of our own country."

### Model Laws for Planning Cities, Counties and States: Including Zoning, Subdivision Regulation and Protection of Official Map

By Edward M. Bassett, Frank B. Williams, Alfred Bettman and Robert Whitten. Harvard University Press, Cambridge, Massachusetts.

**T**HIS report recommends model legislation for local, municipal, county and state planning, including control of zoning and real estate subdivisions. Mr. Whitten, in discussing the suggested laws, emphasizes the need for legislation which would permit planning and developing natural neighborhoods as a unit and points out some of the ways in which zoning might make desirable planning and development impossible later if zoning is accepted and put into practice before other planning features. He believes that a governmental unit should be permitted to exercise any one of the powers outlined only if it accepts responsibility for exercising all. Of particular interest to recreation workers is the fact that all plans and discussions accept the need for including recreation areas and open spaces as a fundamental part of city planning. They all provide for giving the community power through properly constituted authorities for insisting upon the setting aside of reasonable recreation areas in new sub-developments before such plats should be accepted by the governmental units concerned.

### Boats, Airplanes and Kites

By Armand J. LaBerge. The Manual Arts Press, Peoria, Illinois. \$2.00.

**D**ETAILED instructions and complete working drawings with photographs of projects in process and completed make this book of practical value to everyone interested in these three handcraft projects. Part I contains ten chapters devoted to model sailing yachts and motor boats, ranging from a 12 inch sailboat to a 38 inch boat. Part II covers tailless kites, French war kite, box kite, and kite tournaments, while Part III presents model airplanes of different types.

**The American Way.**

By John W. Studebaker. McGraw-Hill Book Company, New York. \$2.00.

It was two years ago that the city-wide experiment in adult education known as the Des Moines public forums was initiated under the supervision of Dr. Studebaker, now United States Commissioner of Education and formerly Superintendent of Schools in Des Moines. The experiment was made possible by a five year grant from the Carnegie Corporation with the sponsorship of the American Association for Adult Education. In this book Dr. Studebaker has given us an account of the experiment, but what is more important, he has also given an interpretation of what that experiment means. For the book outlines his belief that in the spread of devices for free discussion under public auspices lies the solution of the ever recurring chief problem of government under a democracy—the maintenance of an enlightened and interested body politic. This is, he firmly believes, “the American way.”

**Spalding's Official Base Ball Guide 1935.**

Edited by John B. Foster. Spalding's Athletic Library. No. 100X. \$35.

The official base ball guide for 1935 is a comprehensive volume full of news, records, averages and other material of keen interest to the base ball fan. There are a number of articles on various phases of the game. The rules themselves, with explanatory notes compiled exclusively for the guide by Mr. Foster, are in a convenient detachable form for ready reference.

**Municipal Year Book, 1935.**

Edited by Clarence E. Ridley and Orin F. Nolting. International City Managers' Association, 850 East 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois. \$4.00.

More than 100 pages of this comprehensive Year Book for American cities are devoted to a resume of significant events and developments in the various fields of municipal administration in 1934, each summary prepared by an outstanding authority. New sections added this year include one on local government units; data on the 96 metropolitan districts in the United States; detailed state by state discussion of legal classes of cities and forms of city government which may be adopted; activities and services of state municipal leagues, municipal personnel and retirement data; activities of professional organizations of public officials, and services rendered to municipal officials by federal agencies and national organizations of public officials. The Year Book contains a great deal of important data about each of the 960 cities with a population of more than 10,000 in the United States. The new section on municipal personnel gives the number of employees in each city, salary and wage expenditures, and salary cuts and restorations since 1930.

**What to Do in New Haven and Vicinity.**

Council of Social Agencies, New Haven, Conn. \$15.

One of the most comprehensive directories of educational and recreational facilities as yet brought to our attention is *What to Do in New Haven and Vicinity—A Guide to Leisure* the publication of which was made possible through the work of a special committee. When the Community College was organized as an FERA project for the unoccupied youth of New Haven, a group of FERA workers was assigned to gather information about the adult educational and recreational facilities of

the city. The results of this study have been published in this booklet, which is divided into three parts. Part I lists alphabetically recreational and educational activities with brief information as to the organizations which offer them. Part II, also alphabetically arranged, gives fuller information about the organizations, while Part III offers on “special pages” more comprehensive information about facilities and activities classified under a number of headings. Dr. Henry S. Curtis of Ann Arbor, Michigan, has frequently stated that one of the best possible SERA projects is the compilation of a directory of this type, possibly broadened to include county, state or even a section of the country. New Haven has demonstrated the practicability of such a plan.

**Dennison's Handicraft Manual for Recreational Leaders.**

Central Craft Studio Educational Service. Dennison's, 220 Fifth Avenue, New York. \$1.00.

Play leaders interested in handicraft projects in which crepe paper is used will want to know of the new Handicraft Manual in which directions are given for the following projects: Marionettes and Stages; Crepebraid Craft; Clothesline Crepe Weaving; Crepeclay Modeling (Pottery, Mask Moulds, Relief Maps); Glitter-Craft; Tooled Paper; Pulled Crepe Craft (Crepe Paper Raffia); Tapestry-Craft; Crocheting with Crepe; Mosaic Craft; Denny-Dogs; Tube Craft; Miscellaneous (Lampshades, Apollo Metal, Nutsy Bird). The book also contains printed pamphlets on crafts, costumes, flowers and parties. The service offered with the Manual includes the sending of new mimeographed material on craft work as it is published.

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JOHN G. WINANT, Concord, N. H.  
MRS. WILLIAM H. WOODIN, JR., Tucson, Ariz.

# Can You Answer These Questions?

- American communities in the past few years have added a number of outdoor theaters to their recreational facilities. Describe three of these.

*See page 235*

- In what city is there a museum on a playground? Describe a few of the facilities in cities throughout the country made possible through ERA labor and funds.

*See pages 237 and 261*

- What services may the schools render their pupils in planning for vacation activities?

*See page 239*

- What are some of the new goals toward which local recreation programs must be directed? How may "recreational self-sufficiency" be encouraged? High standards in art activities maintained?

*See page 245*

- What methods have been found successful in planning weekly community programs in one city?

*See page 248*

- Through the FERA recreational facilities and leadership have been greatly increased throughout the country. Why did the government feel it important to undertake this program? List some of the projects. How has leadership been developed and what have been some of the results of FERA leadership?

*See page 249*

- What recreational projects are being conducted in California under the ERA? What is the procedure in establishing a program?

*See page 253*

- What should be the place of the dance in the recreation program? What are some of its values?

*See page 255*

- How may a junior league for boys be organized? What are some of the achievements which may be hoped for if the league is successfully conducted?

*See page 256*

- How may progressive educational methods be applied to camp life? How far is it possible to avoid regimentation in the camp program?

*See page 258*

- What are some of the characteristics of Indian games? Describe three of them which have been adapted for playground use.

*See page 262*

- List some of the educational and cultural opportunities offered by a girls' camp. What may be done to help develop desirable character traits? To what extent ought children to share in the daily work of the camp?

*See page 264*

- What has been done through the CCC to develop recreational facilities? State the monetary value placed on the work done by the CCC from its establishment to April 1, 1935.

*See page 266*

- Youth versus Society trials have been held in a number of cities. What are some of the charges Youth is making in bringing its case before the adults of the community?

*See page 266*



## Many Hobbies

"**B**ECAUSE of my belief that sources of happiness are numerous and easily accessible, I advocate the successive riding of many hobbies.

"Why not participate in as many fascinating activities as possible? They offer us not only a means of transitory enjoyment, but also the initial steps to a more sympathetic appreciation of the arts and sciences, and of life as a whole. Hobbies afford us relief from the routine of vocational duties, and relaxation and recreation of mind and body.

"Each hobby takes us into the fraternity of its followers. The hobby gives us something in common with people who otherwise might never become our friends or acquaintances because of the barriers of circumstance, occupation, physical handicaps or geographical location. Usually these people are interesting because of their interest in hobbies or because of the initiative which impels them to explore these fields as well as the fields of endeavor in which they earn their living. The same curiosity and creative impulse motivate the surgeon and the artist, when it comes to etching; or the president of the country and the newsboy on the corner, when it comes to stamp collecting, for instance. Each feels a bond of sympathy for the other through their common interest.

"But too few people have pointed out the dangers of the single hobby. It may become an obsession as narrowing as the routine of our daily obligatory tasks, or something as boring to our friends as the young mother's too frequent repetitions of the sayings of her adored child. It is better to share one's leisure over a period of time with hobby after hobby, getting from each a fresh incentive for endeavor to build a well-rounded personality.

"As each hobbyhorse carries its rider into its own countries of interest, it calls forth in the rider personal potentialities which might otherwise have remained dormant. In this respect the riding of hobbies is like the reading of books: the man devoted to only one book or kind of book may be thorough, but he is likely to be narrow. Books which induce meditation and reflection may also inspire original thought and action. The same is true of hobbies, except that hobbies always require action! Passive reception of an idea is good, but the expression of it in action develops more power in the individual."

*Dr. Frederick B. Robinson in "Hobbies for Everybody"*  
published by Harper & Brothers, New York City.